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LETTERS

HENRY SAVILE, D.D.

FROM THE REV. JOHN H. WATSON, D.D.,

1847

NEW YORK

GEORGE H. RIVINGTON, OF BALTIMORE

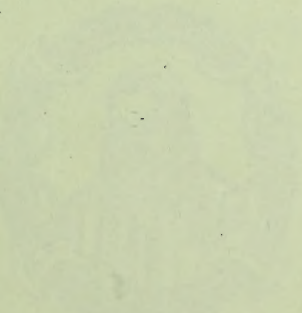
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WILLIAM B. ELLIOTT, OF NEW YORK

1847

WILLIAM B. ELLIOTT, OF NEW YORK

AND



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ALLEN COUNTY, OHIO

*Camden Society London
Publications
Series No. 71*

SAVILE CORRESPONDENCE.

LETTERS

TO AND FROM

HENRY SAVILE, ESQ.,

ENVOY AT PARIS, AND VICE-CHAMBERLAIN TO CHARLES II. AND JAMES II.

INCLUDING

LETTERS FROM HIS BROTHER

GEORGE MARQUESS OF HALIFAX.

PRINTED FROM A MANUSCRIPT BELONGING TO HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE,
AND FROM ORIGINALS IN HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE.

EDITED BY

WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, F.S.A.,

CORRESPONDING MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



PRINTED FOR THE CAMDEN SOCIETY.

M.DCCC.LVIII.

SAVILLE CORRESPONDENCE

LETTERS

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HENRY SAVILE, ESQ.

KNOW AT PARIS, AND VICE-CHANCELLORS TO CHARLES I. AND JAMES II.

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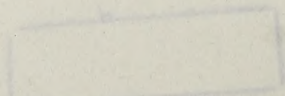
WILLIAM DURRANT COOPER, F.R.S.

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M.DCCC.LXIII



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INTRODUCTION.

The family of Savile was one of the most, if not the most, illustrious in the west riding of the county of York. Some writers have fancifully ascribed to it an Italian origin, but it probably had its rise in England. It certainly flourished in those parts in the 13th century, and in the middle of the 14th century we find (1356), Margaret Savile, widow of Kirkstall.

In the same reign of Edward III. the family divided itself into two main branches. The COUNCIL of the CAMDEN SOCIETY desire it to be understood that they are not answerable for any opinions or observations that may appear in the Society's publications; the Editors of the several works being alone responsible for the same.

Henry of Savile, the Provost of Eton, and founder of the Savilian professorships of astronomy and geometry in the University of Oxford; and his brother, John Savile, a Baron of the Exchequer* (1578-1607), is now represented by the Earl of Mexborough.

John Savile, of Tankersley, made an addition to his estate by his marriage with Isabella, the daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Elwell, and from this estate Sir George Savile took the name of his barony. An only sister and heiress married a son of Lord Percy. The second son, Henry Savile, still further augmented the family importance by marrying Elizabeth, the daughter and heir of Sir Simon Thoresby, and thus acquired the estates at Thoresby, and probably at Lupton. Their only child, Thomas, again formed an influential connection by his marriage with Margaret, daughter of Sir Thomas Pilkington, and in 1627, two years before his death, built the mortuary chapel or quire in Thoresby church.

* Feet's Judges; vi. p. 145.

* Brooke's MSS., Coll. of Arms, J. C. B., II. A.

INTRODUCTION.

THE family of Savile was one of the most, if not the most, illustrious in the west riding of the county of York. Some writers have fancifully ascribed to it an Italian origin, but it probably had its rise at Silkston. It certainly flourished in those parts in the 13th century; and in the middle of the 14th century we find (1358), Margaret Savile, prioress of Kirklees.

In the same reign of Edward III. the family divided itself into two main branches, in the persons of two brothers, John of Tankersley, and Henry of Bradley. The senior branch, to which the following pages relate, acquired its greatest renown in the person of George first Marquess of Halifax. The junior branch is mentioned in these letters as also of Copley and Methley, and having produced one of the most learned men of our country, Sir Henry Savile, the Provost of Eton, and founder of the Savilian professorships of astronomy and geometry in the University of Oxford; and his brother, John Savile, a Baron of the Exchequer ^a (1598-1607), is now represented by the Earl of Mexborough.

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^a Foss's Judges, vi. p. 185.

^b Brooke's MSS., Coll. of Arms, J. C. B., 17 A.

which is engraved in Whitaker's Leeds, and which has remained till the present century the principal burying-place of this branch of the family. His only son, like his predecessors, made a distinguished marriage, taking to wife Alice, daughter of Sir William Gascoine, of Gawthorpe, and died at Sandal Castle in 1482.

At this period the senior line of the family again divided itself; the eldest son John remained at Thornhill, and retained Eland, and the second son Thomas married Ann Basford, and was the first Savile of Lupset; which became, and for nearly a century remained, the seat of this branch, till it was re-united to the Thornhill branch, under circumstances which, as we find them set forth in some unprinted documents in H. M. State Paper Office, and described by Joseph Hunter, Esq. V.P.S.A. in his "Antiquarian Notices of Lupset,"^a &c. have many elements of a family romance. Edward Savile, the last of that branch, was buried at Thornhill, 16th February, 1603-4. He had been divorced from his wife, who was a daughter of Sir Richard atte Lee, of St. Alban's. A new settlement of the estates was made on 28th September, 1559: Edward Savile was subsequently found by a jury to be incompetent; and the family of the Earl of Shrewsbury, whose daughter's descendants succeeded to the estates under the new entail, "are supposed to have exerted some kind of undue influence over him."

The documents in the State Paper Office shew that, on the 27th May, 1559, Lord Talbot and Sir Thomas Gargrave, by direction of the Treasurer of the Queen's Household, had assembled twelve members of the family at Tankersley, to take some "stay" for Edward's inheritance; Edward declared that he would have "Henry Sayvell to be his heire yf he dyed without yssue male:" and all present stated that they wished the inheritance "to be stayed to the righte heyre male of the house of Sayvelles." Lord Shrewsbury, on 8th April, 1560, wrote from Rufford to Sir William Cecill, that the suggestion of the marriage came from Edward Savile, "but all thoughte this offer like me well, bowthe because all his kine and frendes mouch desyre yte, and also I having many children might well thus bestowe one of them, the boy being toward and witty, yet have I refused to assent ther unto, untill I shall

^a London, 1851, p. 20.

PEDIGREE.

[To face p. iii.]

HENRY SAVILE, commonly called the Surveyor, Sheriff of Yorkshire 10 Eliz.; of the Council of the North 1556-1568; of Barroughby and Lupset; will dated 1 Jan. 1568; bur. at Barroughby.

JANE, dau. and coheir of William Vernon, of Barroughby near Grant-ham, widow of Sir Richard Bozom, Knt.; bur. at Barroughby.

MARY, dau. of Sir GEORGE SAVILE, of Lupset, Thornhill, and George Talbot, Wakefield, Knt. 37 Eliz.; created Baronet 29 June, 1611; Sheriff of Yorkshire, 1614; ob. 12th, buried at Thornhill 19th Nov. 1622, æt. 72. M. I.

ELIZABETH, dau. of Edward Ayscough, of South Kelsey, co. Linc. Knt.; widow of George Savile, of Wakefield, Esq.; ob. 25 Jan. 1625-6, æt. 57; bur. at the chapel of Horbury; 2nd wife. M. I.

SARAH, dau. and coh. of John Rede, Sir GEORGE SAVILE, of Cotesbroke, co. Northampton; Thornhill, Knt. ob. in ob. s. p.; 1st wife. vitâ patris, and buried there 24 August, 1616.

ANNE, daughter of Sir William Wentworth, of Wentworth Woodhouse, sister of Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford; mar. at Wentworth, 14 Sept. 1607; ob. 30, bur. at Thornhill 31 July, 1633; 2nd wife.

Sir GEORGE SAVILE, 2nd Bart.; ob. in his minority at Oxford 19 Dec. buried at Thornhill 20 Jan. 1626, s. p.

Sir WILLIAM SAVILE, of Thornhill, 3d Bart.; M.P. for Yerksh. 1640; ob. at York 24 Jan. buried at Thornhill, 15 Feb. 1643-4.

ANNE, dau. of Thomas Lord Coventry, Lord Keeper; mar. at Thornhill, 29th Dec. 1629; remarried Sir Thomas Chicheley, of Wimple, co. Cambr.; buried there.

MARY, bap. 29 Aug. 1632; ob. un-mar. before 1642. (Reg. Thornhill.)

DOROTHY, dau. of Henry Spencer, Earl of Sunderland; ob. 16, bur. at Thornhill 31, Dec. 1670; 1st wife.

Sir GEORGE SAVILE, 4th Bart. of Rufford, created Marquess of Halifax; born 11, bap. at Thornhill 28, Nov. 1633; ob. 5 April, 1695; buried at Westminster Abbey. M. I.

GERTRUDE, dau. of the Hon. Wm. Pierrepont, of Thoresby; 2d wife.

ANNE, born 18 Jan. bap. 10 Feb. 1634; ma. Thos. Lord Windsor, created Earl of Plymouth. MARGARET, born 15 Sept. bap. 22 Sept. 1640. (Reg. Thornhill.)

WILLIAM, ob. before 1660, s. p. HENRY SAVILE, of Barroughby, Envoy at Paris; born 1642; ob. before his nephew William, s. p. A posthumous child, born 12th Aug. 1644.

HENRY LORD ELAND, born Feb. 1660; will proved 1688; s. p.; mar. 1684, Esther, dau. of Gou-vernert, Marquis de la Tour; she d. May, 1694. (Luttr. Diary.)

ANNE, born 1663, mar. John Lord Vaughan, son of Earl of Carbery.

ELIZABETH, dau. and heir of Sir Samuel Grimstone; buried at St. Alban's; 1st wife.

WILLIAM, 2nd Marquess, bo. 1665; ob. 31 Aug. and bur. 9 Sept. 1700, at St. Alban's. (Luttrell's Diary.)

MARY, dau. of Daniel Finch, Earl of Notting-ham; ma. 2 Apr. 1695; rem. Jan. 1707-8, John 1st Duke of Rox-burgh.

GEORGE SAVILE, ma. 1667, wounded at siege of Buda; ob. 1688, s. p.

ELIZABETH, ma. March, 1691-2, Philip 3rd Earl of Ches-terfield. (Luttrell's Diary.)

LUCY ANNE, ob. young, 1700.

GEORGE, ob. inf.

ANNE, ob. 18 July, 1717; 1st wife.

CHARLES LORD BRUCE, 2d son and successor of Thomas 2nd Earl of AYLESBURY, ob. 10 Feb. 1746-7; bur. at Maul-den, co. Beds.

WILLIAM. GEORGE. ESSEX, ob. young.

DOROTHY.

RICHARD BOYLE, Earl of BURLING-ton; ob. 3 Dec. 1753.

MARY, mar. 1722; ob. 30 July, 1751.

SACKVILLE TUFTON, 7th Earl of THANET; ob. 4 Dec. 1753.

CHARLOTTE, dau. and heir. WILLIAM CAVENDISH, 4th Duke of DEVONSHIRE.

have the advise of other my frendes, for I would be right sorry to attempt any thinge that might towche my honor."^a

It is to these circumstances probably that Henry Savile alluded when writing to his brother on 2d August, 1679, after the latter's promotion to the Earl's bench, and the assumption by his eldest son of the title of Lord Eland. Henry Savile^b said, "In your dignity you make me wonder your son does not keep his name as well as you yours, but you have chosen that of all your scutcheon that made the most unfortunate end, not to be so foppish as to say the most sinfull one, but according to that stile we are past the third or fourth generation, and I cannot conceive how either the sound or the antiquity of that name can please you better than your own."

Pedigrees of the Savile family have been given by Mr. Hunter in his *Deanery of Doncaster*; and that portion of the pedigree now printed, and which seems to me necessary to illustrate the letters, is compiled from two MSS.:^c the fullest and most recent was signed in 1703 by Colonel Henry Savile, of St. James's Westminster and Rufford, brother of John the rector of Thornhill. I have added such particulars as are to be found in Mr. Hunter's works, in the Registers of Thornhill and Horbury, in Luttrell's *Diary*, and in the following Letters. This pedigree will enable the reader to trace the descent of the estates and the titles, and to learn that the Earl of Aylesbury and the Duke of Devonshire represent, through females, the blood of the first Baronet, Sir George Savile, by his first marriage with Mary, daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury.

The only child of Sir George Savile and Mary Talbot was another Sir George, who continued the time-honoured custom of his family for good marriages, by espousing for his second wife Anne, the eldest daughter of Sir William Wentworth, and a sister of the great Earl of Strafford. The

^a Domestic, Eliz. iv. art. 32, xii. 3. In vol. xxiv. art. 34-52, it appears that Edward had been conveyed away on 9th September, 1562, by his base brother Robert, from the Earl's custody to Bristol, and married there in a chamber to a simple poor woman: and that the Lord Keeper was thereupon required to summon before him and examine Edward and his base brother, and others his companions.

^b See post, p. 113.

^c MSS. Coll. of Arms, 2 D 14, fol. 147, 205, C 34, f. 7. Notts. For the means of referring to these MSS., and for other information in the notes, I am indebted to the kindness of T. W. King, Esq. F.S.A., York Herald.

have the advice of other my friends, for I would be right sorry to attempt any thing that might touch my honor."

It is to these circumstances probably that Henry Savile alluded when writing to his brother on 24 August 1679, after the latter's promotion to the Earl's bench, and the assumption by his eldest son of the title of Lord Eland. Henry Savile said, "in your dignity you make me wonder your son does not keep his name as well as you yours, but you have chosen that of all your ancestors that made the most unfortunate end, but to be so foolish as to say the most foolish one, but according to that side we are past the third or fourth generation, and I cannot conceive how either the sound or the antiquity of that name can please you better than your own."

Descendants of the Savile family have been given by Mr. Hunter in his *Descendants of Doncaster*; and that portion of the pedigree now printed, and which seems to me necessary to illustrate the letters, is compiled from the MSS.: the fullest and most recent was signed in 1705 by Colonel Henry Savile, of St. James's Westminster and Kilkenny, brother of John the rector of Thornhill. I have added such particulars as are to be found in Mr. Hunter's works, in the registers of Thornhill and Ilkley, in *Parish of Ilkley*, and in the following letters. This pedigree will enable the reader to trace the descent of the estates and the titles, and to learn that the Earl of Aylesbury and the Duke of Devonshire represent through marriage the blood of the first Baronet, Sir George Savile, by his first marriage with Mary, daughter of the Earl of Shrewsbury.

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* *Doncaster*, Edin. iv. no. 32, ill. 2. In vol. xiv, no. 84, it appears that Edward had been conveyed away on the September, 1562, by his two brothers Robert, from the Earl's custody to Bristol, and married there to a daughter of a knight's son; and that the Lord Keeper was afterwards required to summon before him the said Edward and his two brothers, and others his companions.

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* *MSS. Coll. of Arms*, 2 D. 14. fol. 147, 205, C. 34, A. 7. Notes. For the names of referring to these MSS., and for other information in the notes, I am indebted to the kindness of T. W. King, Esq., York House.

early death of her husband, in 1616, left to his widow the education of his two infant sons, and her great care of them is generously alluded to in a letter^a written soon after her death, in 1633, to her youngest son Sir William Savile, who, on the death of his eldest brother Sir George at Oxford, in 1626, had become the third Baronet. She lived, however, to have the satisfaction of seeing her son William well married, to Anne, the daughter of Lord Keeper Coventry, the sister of Lady Packington, and herself distinguished as one of the heroines of the Civil Wars.

The printed correspondence of Lord Strafford contains, not only the excellent letter of advice just mentioned, but also several other letters relating to his nephew's conduct in the management of Royalist forces in Yorkshire, during the troubles of that time, which display, on the part of the nephew, a self-reliance, and possibly a degree of obstinacy, which made him act more on his own opinions than his neighbours and friends thought consistent with the public exigencies; but he gallantly commanded the besieged Royalists at Leeds till it was taken on the 23rd January, 1642-3.^b He was, on 9th May, 1643, appointed governor and commander-in-chief of the town and castle of Sheffield, and Mr. Hunter has printed several letters from him which, Mr. Hunter observes, "breathe much of the high-toned and heroic spirit which animated the supporters of the royal cause."^c The last letter is dated from York on 19th January, 1643-4, and he died there on the 24th of that month. On 18th July, 1642, Sir William Savile had made a holograph will, in which, after directing that his body should be committed to the earth in such decent and seemly order as his executors should think fit, and that the place of his burial (if with conveniency it might be) should be at Thornhill, among his ancestors there: he referred to an indenture dated 20th November, 1634, (the year after his mother's death,) whereby his estates in the counties of York, Nottingham, Lincoln, Derby, Stafford, Oxon, Salop, Wilts, and in the county and city of York, were conveyed to his dear and loving brothers-in-law John Coventry, of Barton, Somerset, Esq., and Sir John Hare, of Stow, Norfolk, Esq., and unto his kind friends Sir John Ramsden of Longley, in the county of York Knight, Sir Richard Hutton of Hutton Pannell in the county of York Knight, Francis Neville of Chivete in the county York,

^a Strafford's Letters, i. 169.

^b Rapin, ii. 222.

^c Hallamshire, p. 106.

William Walter of Garsden co. Oxon, Esq., Charles Greenwood the Rector of Thornhill, and Henry Cooksonne gentleman, his (William Savile's) servant, for twenty years, upon certain trusts: and he thereupon directed that the term should be used for payment of his debts, and if that were not enough, then that his lands in Craven should be sold, and his manor of Hunsworth, and all other his lands in Birstal, leased for twenty-one years at 5*l.* a-year. He then gave to his wife 500*l.*, and the best bed, with such a suit of hangings as she should choose, and all the plate and jewels she commonly kept in her chamber or closet: he gave also to his eldest son George all his arms both horse and foot, with the furniture thereto belonging: to each of his daughters, Anne and "Margerit," 5,000*l.* to be paid them at the age of 18 years:^a to his son William 500*l.* at the age of 21 years: to his son Henry 200*l.* yearly during his life, out of his lands at Alton, co. Stafford, and 1,000*l.* at the age of 21 years: and if it should "happen that his wife should have a child" before he made provision for it by name, then he left it, (if it were a son,) 200*l.* yearly during his life, out of his manors and lands in the county of Derby, and 500*l.* at the age of 21: and if it should be a daughter, 4,000*l.* at 18. Each of his daughters was to have 120*l.* a-year for maintenance till her portion was paid; and all his children were to be bred in such places as his executors should think fit. He also gave to each of the trustees of his lease living at his death 30*l.*: and to each of his servants (except such as those to whom he left annuities) two years' wages: to each of his kind friends Sir Thomas Danby, Sir Ingram Hopton, John Vaughan of the Inner Temple Esq., and Captain Thomas Beaumont, 20*l.* and a horse out of his stables; to his honourable kinswoman the Countess of Kent 50*l.*; and to his "faithful friend *John Selden*, Esq. 50*l.*:" and he bequeathed 100*l.* to be bestowed in rings and given to his friends to wear in remembrance of him. And he appointed his wife, Sir John Ramsden, Sir Richard Hutton, and Francis Neville,^b executors of his will, to each of whom he

^a The-first born child, Mary, was no doubt then dead.

^b Sir John Ramsden, Sir Ingram Hopton, and Francis Neville, with Sir William Savile, were four out of the six of the King's party who on 29th September, 1642, signed at Rodwell the futile agreement for a suspension of military actions and preparations in Yorkshire. Drake's Ebor., p. 163.

gave the sum of 40*l.*, and the running of six horses in any of his parks, till his son should attain the age of 21. The annuities were 20*l.* each to John Batt, of Otwell, Esq., Thomas Farran, Gent. (his servant), and Joseph Sill, of Thornhill, Gent.: to his servants, Thomas Bladenny 20 marks; George Cartwright, Thomas Colbrand, and Thomas Rankines, 10*l.* each; Hugh Thomas, John Sparkes, and John Holiwell, 20 nobles each; Thomas Addy, and his wife, and the survivor, 20 nobles; and John Milner, 5 marks. On 1st January, 1643-4, whilst at York, he made a codicil in which he referred to his having made no provision for his son William during his minority, but had by deed, and to his having settled upon him his estates at Barroby, and the rest of his lands in Lincolnshire, after his wife's life; so for further security he devised to his said son William the manor of Barroby, and the advowson of the church of Barroby, and all other his lands in Lincolnshire: but if his wife stood to her jointure, (of which this formed a part,) then he gave his son William an annuity of 150*l.* a-year till her death:^a he substituted Sir Paul Nele for Sir Ingram Hopton, and gave a legacy of 10*l.* to Robert Butler. This codicil was witnessed by John Cosin, afterwards Bishop of Durham (1660-1671): the will and codicil were proved at York^b on 27th January, 1643-4.

Of the family mentioned in the will, George, who was afterwards Marquess of Halifax, was born on the 11th November, 1633,^c and was therefore only ten years of age; William died s. p. under age; and Henry became the envoy at Paris. Of three daughters, Margaret died unmarried, and Anne became the wife of Thomas Lord Windsor, afterwards created Earl of Plymouth.

The event anticipated in the will happened. A posthumous child was born, and, as will appear, under circumstances of peculiar danger. After the death of Sir William his widow still remained with her children at

^a This son William died before 25 August, 1660, when Sir George Savile signed the pedigree in the Coll. of Arms. The estate at Barroughby then came to his youngest brother, Henry Savile, and is often referred to in the following letters.

^b Where a transcript for "literary purposes" was allowed to be taken on payment only of the fee for inspecting an original will.

^c This date is from the Thornhill register, and therefore the date given in note ^a p. 1, from MS. C 34, f. 7 Notts. is incorrect.

Sheffield Castle, and in the articles concluded for its surrender on 11th August, 1644,^a it is stipulated "that the Lady Savile, and her children and family, with her own proper goods, shall and may pass with coaches, horses, and waggons, to Thornhill or elsewhere, with a sufficient guard befitting her quality; and without injury to any of their persons or plundering of any of their goods or otherwise. She, they, or any of them to go or to stay at their own pleasure, until she or they be in a condition to remove themselves." Dr. Peter Barwick, as quoted by Mr. Hunter, says that though the walls of the castle had been battered on all sides, and she was big with child, yet the besiegers "had so little regard for her sex, that in that condition they refused a midwife she had sent for the liberty of going to her; yet this unheard-of barbarity was so far from moving her, that she resolved to perish rather than surrender the castle. But the walls being everywhere full of cracks with age and ready to fall, the soldiers of the garrison began to mutiny, not so much concerned for their own danger as for the lamentable condition of this noble lady so near the time of her falling in labour, for she was brought to bed the night after the castle was surrendered." Of this child I have found no other mention.

It was once more to the care and energy of a devoted mother^b that these Saviles were indebted for that education which enabled them to hold distinguished, and the eldest a most distinguished, position under their sovereign; and it is no large stretch of imagination to trace in Lord Halifax's "Advice to his Daughter" those traits of womanly character which had made his own mother famous in his eyes, and memorable among the energetic women which those times of trouble produced.

The following pages consist of correspondence written by her sons, or addressed to the youngest. Several letters are from one brother to the other, and afford us many particulars of the public events in which both were engaged at home and abroad. They evince also the sincere love which existed in the family circle, and give an explanation of the conduct of the Earl of Halifax in the most critical period of his career as a minister.

The letters of LORD HALIFAX begin in March 1678-9, and end in July 1686. In 1672 he was sent as Ambassador to Holland, to treat for a

^a Hunter's *Hallamshire*, pp. 111, 112.

^b She remarried Sir Thomas Chicheley.

peace, and in April of that year he had been made a privy councillor, but he had in 1675 become displeasing to Charles, and when, on the fall of Danby in 1679, Sir William Temple proposed Lord Halifax as one of the new council of thirty, it was with difficulty that his majesty's consent was obtained^a. It is clear that his lordship did not expect to form any part of the council, for on 1st May he told his brother, "I find you suppose me amongst others by this time restored to grace at court, but I am so ill at making steps, as they call it, and the good impressions that have been made of me do so remain, that you may reckon me amongst the incurable, except there be a miracle made on purpose for me, and that you will say is not very likely:" and after the appointment he wrote, "It seemeth you had the knowledge of my preferment before I could tell it you, so little did I apprehend myself to be likely to be readmitted into the state of grace, as you might perceive by the stile of my last, in w^{ch} I assure you I did not dissemble with you. To undertake the being useful to my friends in the station I am in would be a piece of arrogance very unfitt for a counsellour of a new edition; but if ever such a miracle should come to pass, as that from such a degree of disfavour as I have lain under I should come to have any credit, no doubt but our envoyé in France might rely upon a friend at court." He was at once added in the new commission for the Board of Trade, and was one of the committee of intelligence. In July of the same year he was one of the advisers of the dissolution of parliament, and had so conciliated his royal master that he was raised to the Earls' bench. His reasons for accepting the higher honor are thus stated:

"I had sent you the first newes of the dissolution of the parliament, but that H. Thynne promised to do it." . . . "It is to be presumed you make comments upon it at Paris, as we do at London, though not just the same; and you may be sure that those who are near the King have their share of the censure that ever attendeth things of this nature. You will think it a strange thing to have it from other hands, and not from mine, that the King, resolving to add my L^d Roberts and my L^d Gerrard to the earles benche, hath thought fitt to let me keep them company. I keep the same name still, and intend your nephew shall take that of the barony, which is Eland: if any young woman that is a good match may be found that can be fool enough to like him the better for it, this piece of preferment hath something in it, else it is to me of very little moment more than as it is a mark of the King's favour, which maketh every thing valuable."

^a See note, p. 84.

And in reply to his brother's criticism on the title assumed by his son, he said, "You quarrel at my son's title, but when you consider that the advantage if any of my new promotion is only to him, and that in respect of some young woman with a good portion may perhaps by mistake think the better of him, it may be an argument that he is call'd by his title and not by his name, to take away the possibility of his lady's being thought a knight's wife, an objection I have often heard amongst the women, and so I let it prevail with me." The Earl declared at this period that he was "much at Windsor," and when the King's first illness occurred in September 1679, Halifax was party to sending for the Duke of York. In the next month Halifax was himself very ill, and represented himself, in November, "as only creeping out of a distemper" which had afflicted him cruelly.

At the end of the year,^a Essex and Halifax disapproved so much of the public measures adopted, that Essex resigned his office; and Halifax retired to his seat, Rufford Abbey, in Nottinghamshire, which had come into the Savile family as an inheritance from George Earl of Shrewsbury,^b and for the quiet of which he had longed.

"I now," he had said, "begin to doubt the summer will pass without my seeing poor old Rufford, now that I have made it deserve a visit better than ever it did before. If I had my choice free, I should prefer being there before this place with all its glory. There is a certain charm in that we call our own that maketh us value it above its true price; but I must lye under the mortification of an absent lover, and am not like to give any other expression at present of my kindness to Nottinghamshire, than the lamenting I cannot see it."

In January 1680 he added,

"I go very early this spring into the country, where, besides other invitations, I shall have that of seeing my small works at Rufford, having yet only had the pleasure of disbursing for them. I confess I dream of the country, as men do of small beer when they are in a fever, and at this time poor old Rufford with all its wrinkles hath more charms for me than any thing London can shew me."

^a It was about this period that the following lines in Rochester's satire on Coxcombs in Place were written, for Dryden was cudgelled in Rose Street in December 1679—

Who would be . . . a cringing knave?
Like Halifax wise, like beauish Pembroke brave?
What drudge would be in Dryden's cudgel'd skin,
And who'd be safe and senseless like Tom Thynne?

^b The Earl had obtained it by exchange from Henry VIII.

And after his arrival he thus described the changes he had effected in the old building.

"I am once more got to my old tenement, which I had not seen since I had given order to renew and repair it. It looketh now somewhat better than when you was last here; and besides the charms of your native soil, it hath something more to recommend itself to your kindness than when it was so mixt with the old ruins of the abbey that it look'd like a medley of superstition and sacrilege, and, though I have still left some decay'd part of old building, yet there are none of the rags of Rome remaining. It is now all heresy, which in my mind looketh pretty well, and I have at least as much reverence for it now as I had when it was encumbered with those sanctified ruins. In short, with all the faults that belong to such a mishapen building, patch'd up at so many several times, and notwithstanding the forest hath not its best cloaths at this time of the year, I find something here which pleaseth me; whether it be the general disease of loving home, or whether for the sake of variety, since I have been so long absent as to make my own house a new thing to me, or by comparing it to other places where one is less at ease, I will not determine; the best reason I can give is, that I grow every day fitter for a coal fire and a country parlour, being come now to the worst part of my elder brothership in having so much a greater share of years than you that it may make amends for the inequality of the division in other respects."

It then became a question whether Halifax should return to public life. He had been strongly urged by his friends to go back, and Henry Savile, being on a visit in London in July, was employed in ascertaining what feeling really prevailed on the subject: the result he thus communicated: "Upon the whole matter, I find your friends enough divided in their opinions concerning your return to town. Those who lately met you on purpose to invite you thither are violent in it: others are as eager for your staying where you are till the very day before the parliament sits, thinking you may hazard the repute they think your absence has gain'd you amongst such as thought you had too great a hand in some matters the last year w^{ch} were not generally approved of. Of all this I am a very ill judge, but shall ever wish you may do what is best for you, and shall leave the decision of this affair till I see you, which will be much sooner than possibly you apprehend." Halifax did return to town, and parliament having met, he by voting for Lord Stafford added so much to the wrath of the commons, which his efforts at defeating the Exclusion Bill had provoked, that they addressed the King to remove him from his councils. The letters written by him at this time give a very favourable view of his calmness and good judgment.

"You will before this have one of mine which giveth you some account of my late preferment in the House of Commons, who were pleased to make me a man of more importance than I am, the better to entitle me to the honour of being addressed against. I am not worth the notice they have been pleased to take of me, and I do not doubt of outliving the disadvantage this may seem to throw upon me, being resolved to give such evidence of myself, if I should continue to have any part in the publick business, as shall cure the suspicions men may have taken of me in a heat, for differing with them in some of their darling points, to w^{ch} they are at present so wedded that no reason can be admitted in contradiction to them. Your kindness maketh this appear a heavier thing than either it is in itself, or than I apprehend it; the circumstances that attended it are more than the thing itself, and yet I have borne it without much disquiet. I must only cast about for a new set of friends, for my old ones have been so very zealous for the publick that some of them thought it as meritorious to persecute me as others believed it excusable to desert me: the history of it I reserve till I see you, and in the meantime whatever may be said from any other hand to lay any blame upon me, let it not find any great credit with you, for I dare undertake, when you hear all, you shall not need to make use of any partiality to incline you to judge of my side."

The brother thought him in the right, and though Lord Halifax expressed his views that Henry Savile's opinion might be too partial, yet he said,

"If the points lately in question are errors on my side, I have this to say in my excuse, that I have hardly one friend that was not very lately of that very opinion which is now accounted a mortal heresy; so that if by a greater measure of grace than I pretend to they have outran me by their sudden conversion, they ought to have been gentler to a weak brother than I have found them. If I could tell you the several steps of their behaviour to me, you would wonder they do not turn papists, since there is no other church in the world charitable enough to give them absolution for it. I would not much doubt of satisfying you in the great objections made against me, if I had time to discourse with you, but a letter cannot be made long enough to give you a clear light into things of this kind. You will I am sure give me some kind of credit when I tell you I am not such a volunteer in philosophy as to provoke such a storm as hath fallen upon me, from a mistaken principle of bravery, to do a thing only because it is dangerous; but when upon inquiry I think myself in the right, I confess I have an obstinate kind of morality, which I hope may make amends for my want of devotion. It seems the foreign ministers have had my picture drawn by their correspondents, not very much to my advantage. I guess who were the painters, and I think I am not mistaken in it. Where all this will end, either in relation to myself or to the publick, God in Heaven only knoweth. I am at this hour threatened with more thunder from the House of Commons to-morrow; whether it will be so or in what manner I do not yet know, but where there is infinite anger there is reason to expect the worst; for which I have recourse still to my small philosophy, and have not only the comfort of innocence to support me, but the impossibility of avoiding any strokes of this kind without such indecencies, (to give no worse term,) as I can

"You will believe this part one of mine which gives you some account of my late performance in the House of Commons, who were pleased to make me a man of some importance than I am, and better to enable me to the honour of being without equal. I am not worth the notice they have been pleased to take of me, and I do not doubt of continuing the disadvantage this may seem to throw upon me, being resolved to give such evidence of myself, as I should continue to have my part in the publick estimate, as well as the opinions may have taken of me in a heat, for differing with them in some of their darling points, to say they are at present so wicked that no reason can be admitted in contradiction to them. Your kindness towards this appears a kinder thing than others it is to me, for I apprehend it, the circumstances that attended it are more than the thing itself, and yet I have borne it without much displeasure. I must only cast about for a new set of friends, for my old ones have been so very careless for the publick that some of them thought it as unnecessary to persecute me as others believed it necessary to cheer me: the liberty of it I reserve till I see you, and in the meantime whatever may be said from any other hand to lay any blame upon me, let it not find any great credit with you, for I have undertaken, when you hear all, you shall not need to make use of any possibly to induce you to judge of my side."

The speaker thought him in the right, and though Lord Halifax expressed his views that Henry Savile's opinion might be too partial, yet he said,

"If the points truly in question are errors on my side, I have this to say in my defence, that I have hardly one friend that was not very lately of that very opinion, which I now accounted a mortal enemy; so that if you greater measure of grace than I pretend to they have outdone me by their sudden conversion, they ought to have been kinder to a weak brother than I have found them. If I could tell you the secret ways of their behaviour to me, you would wonder they do not turn papists, where there is an offer shown to the world charitable enough to give them absolution for it. I would not much doubt of satisfying you in the great obligations they stand me, if I had time to discourse with you, but a letter cannot be made long enough to give you a clear light into things of this kind. You will I am sure give me some kind of credit when I tell you I am not such a violent in philosophy as to provide such a man as hath fallen upon me from a mistaken principle of honesty, to do a thing only because it is dangerous; but when upon inquiry I think myself in the right, I continue I have an obstinate kind of morality which I hope may make amends for my want of devotion. It seems the foreign ministers have had my picture drawn by their correspondents, not very much to my advantage. I guess who were the painters, and I think I am not mistaken. When all this will end, either in relation to myself or to the publick, God in Heaven only knoweth. I am at this hour threatened with more ill than from the House of Commons to-morrow, whether it will be so or in what manner I do not yet know, but what there is I believe is rather more reason to expect the worst; for which I have resources still to my small philosophy, and have not only the comfort of innocency to support me, but the impossibility of avoiding any stroke of this kind without such indiscreet, (to give no worse term), as I can

never digest : and, though I agree with you this is not an age for a man to follow the strict morality of better times, yet sure mankind is not yet so debased but that there will ever be found some few men who will scorn to join in concert with the public voice, when it is not well grounded; and even that popular fury which may now blow in my face will perhaps with a little patience not only abate, but turn against these very men that now appear against me."

Parliament was dissolved in January 1680-1, and then Lord Halifax wrote to his brother—

"Your fears for me, I suppose, may increase when you hear of the dissolution of a parliament. You may believe me when I tell you, this is not to be imputed to me, though I am far from arraigning the better judgments of those with whom I may differ in this particular. If it should happen, which is not unlikely, that I should go down to Rufford, you will be further convinced in this matter, and if I could talk with you, I should as little doubt of doing it in that of my L^d. Stafford, in which you are possess'd I see by the powerfull majority, which is not at all times found to be in the right. A man must never hope a pardon for small sins if he will digest great ones, and where blood is in the case there is not, or at least ought not to be, any room for prudence. That an honest man is a very scurvy calling I agree with you, but having used it so long I do not know how to change, but must be content to keep to it with all its hazards and inconveniences. By what you say concerning my late friends, I find a statesman hath as much charity out of interest as a Christian hath from his religion, and is as easily reconciled to his enemies whenever the scene changeth, and that it suiteth well with his affairs; I confess I, who am slow to anger, when I am once thoroughly injured, am apt enough to retain it, not so far as to revenge myself, but only to remember, and not easily to trust again."

And again:

"Your kind repeated earnestness to rescue me from the dangers you apprehend I am in from the general anger that hath of late been raised against me, coming from the warmth of your heart, as I am sure it doth, is a welcome though an unnecessary evidence of your mind towards me, and though I cannot absolutely agree to your prescriptions of a looser morality in things that relate to the publick, yet I am enough convinced, and was so even before my late experience, that there is a good deal of hazard in opposing the torrent of a House of Commons; but on the other side, it being the only definition of an honest man to be a lover of justice with all its inconveniences, I do not very well know how things of this kind are to be avoided, but by such means as would lye heavier upon me than all the votes or addresses an angry parliament can throw upon me. I have had the good luck to have every unpopular thing imputed to me in the first place, and by going a strait way without any byass, or engaging in any faction, one part of the world hath been much more violent against me than the other hath been in my defence. All these disadvantages did not move me so as to quit my ground whilst the parliament sat. I

thought myself restrained by a necessary point of honour not to do that by compulsion which perhaps in itself was the thing in the world I most desired; but now that the parl^t is dissolved, I am going down to Rufford to breathe a little, and enjoy some quiet, which will be a very welcome thing to me, and when we meet again at Oxford I must venture to go into the storm, and receive the shot once more of an angry House of Commons, except they should by a miracle grow into a better temper than is naturally expected from them. I shall at least have some respite, though I assure you it was not my choice."

He declined to adopt his brother's advice to follow Lord Clarendon's example, and publish a vindication of his conduct, for these reasons:—

"I assure you if I am a criminal I am an impudent one, and if you had been upon the place, you would have seen me much less out of countenance than those that pursued me. I think that I am not mistaken when I tell you the greatest part of them are far from being proud of what they have done as to my particular; for where a thing wanteth a true foundation in justice it cannot be long lived, let the authority be never so great that would give it countenance, and make it pass in the world. As for one thing you mention and set weight upon, there is no danger it should be imputed to me, whatever might be reported at first; I have made my thoughts publick enough concerning that matter; though after the things that have happened to me I will answer for nothing of that kind. As for any that have dealt ill with me from whom I had no reason to expect it, I leave them to the vengeance of their repenting thoughts, which must at one time or other represent their ungenerous proceeding in a worse and an uglier shape than either a vote or an address ever appeared to me. I am now at old Rufford, where the quiet I enjoy is so pleasant, after the late hurricane I have escaped from in town, that I think myself in a new world, and if wishes were not vain things, and resolutions little better in so uncertain an age as this, I would neither intend nor desire any thing but what I have here—silence and retreat; but if the parl^t sitteth at Oxford, by virtue of my peership I am under the obligation of venturing once more to run the gantlet, and I am so ill at any undecent evasion of that which I think my duty, that if I should go about it I should do it very scurvily, which maketh me run hazards in these cases that more dexterous men would perhaps find means to escape."

He adhered to his determination to go to Oxford, the avoiding of parliament "being so scandalous that the considerations of prudence are not to be admitted," and when that fruitless meeting was over, he returned to Rufford. In July 1681, however, he met the Prince of Orange at the conferences at Windsor, and henceforth took again an active part in the government: he became a commissioner to consider of a Protestant league, and to adopt plans for the relief of Luxembourg. We find him also with the Duke of York and the King at Newmarket in March 1682: in May he is said by Luttrell,^a to have proposed in the council that none of the

^a Diary, i. 189.

King's officers or servants should have discourse with the Duke of Monmouth, his violence being ascribed to that Duke's having "spoken words in the nature of a challenge." In August of the same year he was created a Marquess; and in October made Lord Privy Seal.

The Letters enable us to form, or modify, or confirm our opinion of his public character during the reign of the second Charles; and at all events they supply much new information as to his private life, and the education and prospects of his children.

The monument in the north aisle of Henry the VIIIth's chapel has a bust of the Marquess, which is engraved in Dart's History.^a

HENRY SAVILE, the writer of the greatest number of the following letters, appears in the MS. pedigrees in the College of Arms as the youngest child of Sir William and Lady Anne; he was born at Rufford, which he calls his "mother earth," in 1641 or 1642, and was only a few months old when his father died.

His eldest brother and sisters had all been baptised at Thornhill; but there is no entry of the name of Henry Savile. The old hall there was burnt down in 1644 by order of the family, to prevent its being a garrison for the forces of the Parliament. Sir William Savile had removed to Rufford,^b and the registers at Wellow do not now extend to the seventeenth century.^c

Of Henry Savile's early life and education we have no account. We first meet with him in 1661, making the tour of the South of Europe, including Spain, in company with the Earl of Sunderland and Henry Sidney; and, as he says, he spent so much of his life abroad that he should hardly be an absolute stranger to any place his Majesty might be pleased to send him.^d On his introduction into public life, he was about to make the sea his profession,^e when upon the King's refusal in 1665 "to make his brother Sir George Savile a viscount, to please Sir William Coventry," the Duke of York, "to show how willing he was to oblige the family, immediately received" a younger brother, "whom he had only seen in the North, to wait upon him in his bedchamber."^f The appointment, accord-

^a Vol. i. plate 48.

^b A plate of the ruins as they now exist is given in Whitaker's Leeds.

^c Rufford is extra-parochial, and the registers of Wellow, which is used for the offices of the church, commence only in 1703.

^d Page 28.

^e See p. 5.

^f Clarendon's Life, vol. ii. p. 459.

ing to Pepys, was not disagreeable to the Duchess of York, who is reported to have "fallen in love with her new Master of the Horse, one Harry Sidney, and another Harry Savile."^a But Lord Clarendon, with whom he was no favourite, declares him to have been "a young man of wit and incredible confidence and presumption," and to have "omitted no occasion to vent his malice against the Chancellor, with a license that in former times would have been very penal, though it had concerned a person of a much inferior quality in the state."

As the Duke of York was Lord High Admiral, Henry Savile did adopt the sea as his first profession. "My equipage for sea," he told his brother, "will cost me more than you are worth;" and again, in August, 1666, "I am going to try my fortune once more at sea against the will of both my friends and all my acquaintances." On the 27th of that month he was on board the Duke's own flag-ship in Southwold Bay, hoping to reach the Dutch in two days. He subsequently participated in the second fight off the North Foreland, when he informed his brother that the English "had lost nobody worth hanging." In the following year, when the Dutch sailed up the Medway, Henry Savile, in attendance on the Duke of York, accompanied him to Chatham and Harwich. With a view to his own promotion at Court, where "measures were then so taken that it was essential to a man's succeeding there to be of the parliament," he in August, 1667, proposed to stand for Nottingham; there was, however, no vacancy: and he seems to have continued in attendance on the Duke until March, 1669, when, at the request of his uncle Sir William Coventry, whose friendship lasted for him till the latter's death, he took Sir William's challenge to the Duke of Buckingham. Savile found himself in the Gate-house; whence, on the importunity of the Duke of York, he was removed to the Tower, and though he and Sir William were both discharged on the 21st March, the King refused him the honour of kissing hands, and directed the Duke not to receive him into waiting until further orders. Hereupon he went to Paris; and we next meet with him on the 21st of May, 1670, as dining in the company of Sir Charles Scarborough with John Evelyn.^b On the 1st of July we find him furthering his desire to enter into parliament for the borough of East Retford, on a hint from

^a Diary, ii. 343.

^b Diary, vol. ii. p. 321.

Lord Ogle, by forthwith writing to his brother for his support. Urging him to interest the Duke of Newcastle in his favour, Savile said, "You must give me leave to think that you can do this if you will, which I have as great reason to believe you want as I have to be sensibly troubled at it, and though I know very well my discretion is very justly called in question by my friends, yet I cannot but a little wonder that those who do so often advise me to apply myself to business should be so unwilling I should appear upon so considerable a stage of it as the House of Commons." He failed to induce his brother to withdraw his determination not to name anybody.

In August, 1672, he was again with the Duke of York on board the Prince in Burlington Bay, and he obtained sufficient favour with the Earl of Arlington and Charles II. to be sent in September, 1672, as Envoy Extraordinary to Louis XIV. to secure more cordiality and a closer union between the fleets of the two countries in their operations against the Dutch. He wrote to his brother, declaring that he should be very importunate on his return, and having tried all other ways, if this should fail, he said that he would urge his brother's authority to send him to the Plantations; yet he executed his commission at Paris so well that he recovered his friendship with Lord Sunderland, then Ambassador at Paris, the loss of whose kindness had been "one of the greatest troubles that ever happened" to him, and could boldly write to the Earl of Arlington, if he could be of no further use at Paris, to look out where he might be, and, if a "beggar might choose," he wished it were abroad, where his talents would be of most use to the King. He had found during the "last summer disappointments enough" at Court, but he was now rewarded by being made Groom of the Chamber to the King, with power to sell his place under the Duke of York, for which he wanted 1,800*l.* without, however, effecting his purpose. The Court was by no means an agreeable place for him; he was averse to proceedings "to consist in fawning, creeping, and serving on in offices troublesome and servile enough in themselves, although gilded by the fancies of men," and once more he stated his intention, whether the Duke went or not, to return again to the sea as a profession.

During the next four years we have little notice of him; part of the time he was in waiting at Whitehall, and part was spent in Paris. The chief

event was his return in 1673 as a Member for the newly-enfranchised borough of Newark. Parliament was sitting when the writ issued. The House of Commons however claimed the sole right of issuing writs during their existence, and some persons at Newark petitioned the House, complaining of undue means and practices resorted to for obtaining the charter itself. Henry Savile had been very active in assisting the borough, and the corporation have recorded his unpurchased but not unrewarded services in a somewhat curious address.^a The petitions stood over from time to time until at last, in April 1677, a new writ was issued. Down went Savile to Newark, and underwent the miseries of a contested election, which he has very graphically described. "It were worth giving a year of life that this insupportable week were passed:" with all his services he would have had no chance if he had "stuck to the new order of the House of Commons," against treating, "and not to the old custom of England:" he was obliged to double his reckonings to them, but at so dear a rate that he had quite broken his back, even though he should succeed, which was far from a certainty. He had reason to wish he had never seen or heard of the town, and heartily desired to be "at an end of more noise and tumult than ever poor mortal was troubled with," and having been all day "sick to agonies with four days swallowing more good ale and ill sack than one would have thought a country town could have held, and this worthy employment" he had to begin again on the morrow, "though he burst for it." He would have "broken his heart had he returned to London unsuccessful, after taking pains and trouble that he would not have undergone again to be an emperor, instead of a burgess." Success crowned his efforts, and he repented "it not, though the payments would be heavy," and the expenses made "his heart bleed as well as his purse." After a little experience in Parliament, he was "so delighted with his new seat," that if his opponent, who petitioned against him, should "have in the least disturbed him he would have screamed as if he had lost a limb."

The seat in Parliament, and the firm friendship of the Lord Treasurer Danby, in reference to which Lord Macaulay has recorded a not very creditable anecdote,^b soon produced their reward. In August, 1678,

^a See page 47.

^b See note, page 60.

event was his return in 1878 as a Member for the newly-constituted borough of Newark. Parliament was sitting when the writ issued. The House of Commons however claimed the sole right of issuing writs during their existence, and some parties at Newark petitioned the House, complaining of undue means and practices resorted to for obtaining the charter itself. Henry Savile had been very active in assisting the borough, and the corporation have recorded his ungrudging but not unwearied services in a somewhat curious address. The petition stood over from that time until at last, in April 1877, a new writ was issued. Then went Savile to Newark, and underwent the duties of a contested election, which he has very graphically described. "It was worth giving a year of his time this unprofitable work was passed; with all his services he would have had no chance if he had stuck to the new order of the House of Commons," against treating, "and not to the old custom of England;" he was obliged to double his workings to them, but at so dear a rate that he had quite broken his back, even though he should succeed, which was far from a certainty. He had reason to wish he had never seen or heard of the town, and heartily desired to be "at an end of more noise and tumult than ever poor mortal was troubled with," and having been all day "sick to agonies with four days swallowing more food and ill sack than one would have thought a country town could have held; and this worthy employment," he had to begin again on the morrow, "though he burst for it." He would have broken his heart had he returned to London unsuccessful after thirty pains and trouble that he would not have undergone again to be an emperor, instead of a burgess. Success crowned his efforts, and he repeated "it not, though the payments would be heavy," and the expenses made "his heart bleed as well as his purse." After a little experience in Parliament, he was "so delighted with his new seat," that if his opponent, who petitioned against him, should "have in the least disturbed him he would have sworn as if he had lost a limb."

The seat in Parliament, and the firm friendship of the Lord Treasurer Derby, in reference to which Lord Alton has made a very creditable anecdote, soon produced their reward. In August, 1878,

he was again in Paris, acting with our ambassador, the Earl of Sunderland; and when the latter returned to England Henry Savile was, in February 1679, appointed to succeed him with the title only of Envoy Extraordinary. In this employment he obtained very early the compliment of having it said that "*Monsieur Savile fait les affaires de son Maître le plus habilement du monde.*" And, among the matters of gossip in London, is this sent by Lord Halifax to H. Savile: "One piece of intelligence I confess I am not a little pleased with, which is, that upon a contest you had with his Christian Majesty (we will suppose it was for the honour of England or the advancement of the Protestant religion) he thought fit to give you a cuff on the ear. This was discoursed amongst the most sober newsmongers of St. James's Park as a real truth, and you cannot imagine how such a thing as this advanceth your reputation amongst all true lovers of the gospel. The King of France hath great pleasure to see how all the world trembleth under him, for I suppose it a satisfaction suitable to his heroick mind; but, for my own particular, was I in his place, I could find out a hundred things that would please me more than to keep Flanders and Germany from sleeping for fear of him."

The most important negotiations between the two courts were conducted in London by Monsieur Barillon, who was a strong opponent of Henry Savile, and whose secret money dealings with Charles II. and with many members of Parliament, gave that tone of humble submission towards Louis, and his ambitious designs, which rendered our foreign negotiations at this period a byword in history. Instructions were given to Savile, which, if not contrary to Charles's exact words, were at least opposed to Hyde's implied promises to the French minister; and Louis himself was by no means satisfied with some of Savile's straightforward acts and expressions; yet the English envoy zealously endeavoured to maintain the honour of his country, and when he retired, in March 1682, to perform the duties of his new office as one of the Commissioners of the Admiralty in England, Sir Leoline Jenkins, in sending his letters of revocation, after stating that Lord Halifax had pressed with all earnestness to have them despatched, and wishing Savile joy in his new place, thus acknowledged his diplomatic services:^a "I thought the King extremely well served by you there

^a 20 Feb. 1681-2, Secretary's letter book.

where you are; I make no doubt he will be so here. My zeal against your returning at this time (if it does displease you) you will the more easily pardon, since it had no end but his Majesty's service, no ground but your own merit, and the hearty esteem wherewith I am, &c."

During Savile's residence as minister at Paris two important matters of negotiation went on through him. One was the attempt to stop the ambitious designs of Louis, the other was the envoy's efforts to mitigate the severity of that King's edict against the Protestants.

When Savile first appeared in Paris the negotiations at Nimeguen were going on. The Commons had in 1677 addressed Charles in favour of a league with the States-General for the preservation of the Spanish Netherlands, to prevent the power and growth of the French King; and it appears by the letters now published that in the following month the Prince of Orange's chief favourite, Bentinck, came to Windsor, to press this matter, being supported by the Spanish Ambassador, who was reported to have declared that if Charles would not join the confederates against France his master would be forced to declare war against England. In the September of the following year we learn that the French court was angry that England daily poured over more men into Flanders, though "our men died so very fast that in a little time the remaining number would not be very formidable to anybody." Louis, however, was heartily desirous of peace, and was enabled to obtain better terms than might have been insisted upon, owing in some measure to the facts here recorded, that the ministers of Denmark and Brandenburg had been struggling at his court who should "make the earliest and the humblest offers," and had been posting who should ride fastest, and striving who should first make them; and that the sad condition of English affairs at home lessened "the credit we had everywhere with our neighbours." When peace was finally concluded, and the treaty signed in February 1679, it was seen by English statesmen that the peace made France "more terrible, now it was absolutely at leisure to do whatever their own strength or their neighbours' weakness might tempt them to do." The dread of a French fleet was ridiculed by Algernon Sidney and Henry Savile; but two years had scarcely elapsed when Louis sent troops into Wirton, claimed large districts as belonging to the bishopric of Toul, asserted his right to Chinay, backed the demand of the chamber of Metz for the greater part of Luxembourg, as belonging to

the bishoprick of Metz, and made a pretence of going with his court to Chambord, with his comedians and musicians, sent two days before, whilst he secretly left his palace, and, appearing suddenly with his troops before Strasburg, took that city, having also bribed the duke of Mantua for the betrayal of Cassel, and finally, having paid his *douceur* to Charles for his acquiescence, marched his troops into Luxembourg, and treated with non-chalance the memorials which the English minister was forced by the importunities of the Prince of Orange and the Spanish minister to join with the Dutch ambassador in presenting to his Most Christian Majesty. All these circumstances are fully detailed in the letters now published, and throw a new and sombre light on the ambitious designs of the French monarch.

With reference to the proceedings against the Protestants in France, we have also new and important materials for history. We have an account of the destruction of the Protestant temples in Gascony, in Poitou, in Normandy, "too near the coast of England;" of the proceedings of the *Chambre Ardente*; of the edicts requiring all to kneel to the Host, forbidding marriages between people of different religions, and, what caused more alarm than any thing else, and induced parents to hurry their children out of France in shoals, the authority for children of seven years of age to choose their religion, upon which the ports were stopped to all Protestants under the age of 16. All this was declared to be "in revenge for what was done to the papists in England," the usage of whom was declared to be the "model designed for what treatment the English Protestants should find" in France. But the passions of France were inflamed by the Archbishop of Paris and the Père la Chaise, who caused the speeches of the Jesuits and of Dr. Plunkett, executed in England, to be printed and distributed in France, which had a "terrible effect, people being so possessed against us that it needed," in Savile's opinion, "some very exact narrative of all that had passed among us to convince the world our proceedings had not been so barbarous as in Paris, and everywhere southward, they had been reported to be," and the "rumours concerning our barbarity increased daily." This endeavour to prevail on Louis to revenge the quarrel of the English Catholics on the French Protestants made the latter tremble so much that they were ready, said Savile, "to go into England in such vast numbers as would be of great advantage to the nation if you would by easy naturalisation make it in the

least easy for them." Lord Halifax in his reply says: "It becomes the zeal of the French clergy to press the King to a persecution by way of revenge upon us here; but I will hope wiser things of the government there than that so unreasonable a thing should prevail; however, if the fear of it putteth thoughts into the Protestants of removing thither, I am sure we must renounce all good sense if we do not encourage them by all possible invitations. It hath ever been so much my principle that I have wondered at our neglecting a thing we ought to seek; and those that have not zeal enough to endeavour it for the preserving our religion might have wit enough to do it for the increase in our trade." And on another occasion: "Sure there is ground enough for me to have my cautions, being under such circumstances as I am, and having enemies of so many several colours; I know no better expedient to secure myself against all events than to build upon the same foundation and live by the same maxims I have ever done since my being in business, and to take care that in all my actions there may be so much of the Protestant and the Englishman as may silence the objections of my being a papist or a pensioner. In particular I shall endeavour to justify my Protestantship by doing all that is in my power towards the encouragement of those that shall take sanctuary here out of France; though even in that, our present condition consider'd, there is great tenderness to be used in the manner of it, that we may give no occasion for a higher persecution against them there, or by disputing a prince's power over his own subjects draw a question upon us which would hardly be decided in our favour, and we are not strong enough to support our having the wrong end of an argument." Henry Savile had advised the adoption of measures to facilitate the reception of the French Protestants in England on Lords Sunderland and Arlington; he again pressed them with much urgency on Mr. Secretary Jenkins, and, as a particular inducement, he held out the introduction into this country of the manufacture of sail-cloth. His letter of 22nd July N. S., 1681,^a reiterated his suggestions, and he had the satisfaction of finding his views adopted, and the wise rule laid down which became of such value to this country on the revocation of the Edict of Nantes a few years later. On 28th July he had Sir L. Jenkins's assurance that Charles II. had ordered

^a See p. 207.

letters for a collection in London to answer the present necessities of the poor Protestants, and had directed a brief to be "issued out all the kingdom over^a." At the council held on the same day an order was made in favour and for the relief of poor distressed Protestants, who by reason of the rigour and severities which were used towards them upon the account of their religion, should be found to quit their native country, and should desire to shelter themselves under the royal protection for the preservation of their religion; and the attorney-general was from time to time directed to cause letters of denization to be issued to persons particularly named without fee or other charges. The first letters contained only the proviso that the parties should live and continue in the kingdom of England or elsewhere in the King's dominions; but in 1684 a condition was added that those who were 16 years old should take the oath of allegiance, and the others within three months of their attaining that age; and in the orders of 1687 it is recited that the parties had received the sacrament according to the usage of the church of England.^b

The letters contain references to other public matters in France, to the trials for sorcery and poisoning, to the gay wedding of Madame d'Orleans with Charles II. of Spain, (at which Savile, though he "preferred the modest garb of the head of his family, a plain band," appeared in "clothes of two hundred pistoles,") to the assembly of the French clergy, (of whom, for some time, no great things were heard, "but of their great breakfasts," on whom "the town bestowed more *pasquines* than had been known" at the time, and yet who settled the important question of the regale,) and added to the desire of Louis XIV. to increase his fleet, to build frigates on English models, and to strengthen his old and add new sea ports.

The Letters contain also the court version of many public transactions in England; and fresh notices of, and incidents in, the lives of the Dukes of Northumberland and Marlborough, of Lord William Hamilton, of

^a Under these orders 3,319*l.* were collected in the city of London, and 12,788*l.* in the country. Other briefs were subsequently issued, one being dated 31st January, 1687; and the whole amount collected at different periods, down to 1701, was no less than 136,382*l.* *Ex inf.* Peter Levesque, Esq., F.S.A.

^b MSS. State Paper Office Domestic various, No. 694. In 1687 there were no less than 15,500 Protestant refugees in England. See also note, p. 229.

letters for a collection in London to answer the present necessities of the poor Protestants, and had directed a brief to be "issued out of all the king-dom over." At the council held on the same day an order was made in favour and for the relief of poor distressed Protestants, who by reason of the rigour and severities which were used towards them upon the account of their religion, should be found to quit their native country, and should desire to shelter themselves under the royal protection for the preservation of their religion; and the attorney-general was then time to time directed to cause letters of denisation to be issued to persons particularly named without fee or other charges. The first letters contained only the proviso that the parties should live and continue in the kingdom of England or elsewhere in the King's dominions; but in 1684 a condition was added that those who were 16 years old should take the oath of allegiance, and the others within three months of their attaining that age; and in the orders of 1687 it is recited that the parties had received the sacrament according to the usage of the church of England.

The letters contain references to other public matters in France, to the trials for sorcery and poisoning to the gay society of Madame d'Orleans with Charles II. of Spain (at which Saville, then in the "petit conseil," appeared in the modest group of the head of his family, a plain knight, "appeared in a cluster of two hundred pistols," to the assembly of the French clergy, (of whom, for some time, no great things were heard," but of their great breakfasts," on which "the town bestowed more passages than had been known" at the time and yet who settled the important question of the regale), and added to the desire of Louis XIV. to increase his fleet, to build frigates on English models, and to strengthen his old and add new sea ports.

The letters contain also the court version of many public transactions in England; and fresh notices of, and incidents in, the lives of the Duke of Northumberland and Marlborough, of Lord William Russell, of

* Under these orders 52196 were offered in the city of London, and 15,138 in the country. Other offers were subsequently made, one being dated 21st January, 1687; and the whole amount collected at different periods, down to 1701, was no less than 136,532l. See also *Letter from the Secretary of State to the Secretary of the Admiralty*, 1687.

* MSS. State Paper Office, Domestic series, No. 504. In 1687 there were no less than 15,500 Protestant refugees in England. See also note p. 235.

Lady Henrietta Wentworth, and of Sir William Coventry (whose death is here recorded, and whose monumental inscription at Penshurst I have inserted). They describe also the enthusiastic reception of the Prince and Princess of Orange at Amsterdam, and have many valuable allusions to several other eminent persons of the period.

During Henry Savile's visit to England, in July 1680, he kissed hands as Vice-Chamberlain, and was sworn into office on the 3rd September of the same year. He was a Commissioner of the Admiralty from January, 1682, till May, 1684. He was reappointed Vice-Chamberlain by James II.; and, notwithstanding Lord Halifax's retirement from the Presidency of the Council in 1685, Henry Savile continued to hold his office till March, 1687. There are only three letters of a subsequent date. He was then evidently very ill, and proceeded to Paris for a surgical operation; and he certainly died between September, 1689, the date of the last letter, and September, 1700, for he did not succeed to the baronetcy on the death of his nephew.

His character may be traced with ease in these pages. He must have had a warm heart to have been the intimate correspondent of John Earl of Rochester, of Henry Killigrew, and of Algernon Sidney; to the last of whom he twice rendered the service of obtaining leave for his return to England.

One hundred and seventy-eight of the letters now printed are from a folio volume in MS. very kindly placed in the hands of my friend John Payne Collier, Esq., F.S.A., and treasurer of our society, for the use of the Camden Society, by his Grace the late Duke of Devonshire, who was descended from Dorothy, one of the co-heiresses of the second Marquess of Halifax by his second wife, Mary, the daughter of Daniel Earl of Nottingham. The first Marquess of Halifax kept a diary from which he compiled a journal. The original of that journal, and also a copy, are stated to have been destroyed; but there are still hopes that the diary itself, which was in several volumes, may be discovered, for it was seen not many years ago in his grace's library, and was most probably the original of the Halifax MS. belonging to the papers of Mr. Fox, and cited in his Historical Fragment. It was, however, searched for in vain when the volume of Letters was lent by his Grace to our Society.

It is not known where the originals of the letters are; but the transcript

in the folio was evidently made about the middle of the last century by some person who did not pay particular attention to the exact orthography of the writers, as the reader will see by a comparison between these copies and the originals of Henry Savile's letters remaining in Her Majesty's State Paper Office. From that office the remaining sixty-three letters in the following pages are taken.

WM. DURRANT COOPER.

81, Guildford St., Russell Sq., London,
28th September, 1858.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir GEORGE SAVILE.

MOST DEAR BROTHER,

London, April 3rd 1671.

I received a letter from you about three days since, whose stile was much different from what yours used to be. You will easily imagine that I did not read it without understanding it at first sight, and that it could not be so mysterious but that I immediately found out its meaning. In earnest, dear brother, you need not go that way to work with me, but may better make use of your authority towards a brother and a servant that never did yet disobey you in any point whatsoever. But my last to you will satisfy you as to that point, for I have already assured you that I will, according to your commands, pass my summer in these parts of France. I did write you in my last for your new son,* and am much concern'd that he bears my name. I wish with all my heart that he prove as fast and in as

* Sir George Savile (afterwards Marquess of Halifax) was the eldest son of Sir William Savile, of Thornhill, who died 1644, by Anne, daughter of Thomas Lord Keeper Coventry, and was born 25th August, 1633. His first wife was Dorothy, daughter of Henry, Lord Spencer, Earl of Sunderland, and their eldest son Henry was born in February, 1659-60. She died 16th, and was buried at Thornhill 31st, December, 1679. (MS. Coll. A. 10. 1.)

^b In the volume of "Familiar Letters, written by the Right Hon. John van Rind of Rochester and others," and published in 1767, are nineteen letters addressed by Lord Rochester to and about the year 1679 (the year before Sir George) to Henry Savile, in which the names of Savile's person is more than once alluded to.

SAVILE CORRESPONDENCE.

I.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir GEORGE SAVILE.

MOST DEAR BROTHER,

Lyons, April ye 9th, 1661.

I received a letter from you about three days since, whose stile was much different from what yours uses to be. You will easily imagine that I did not read it without understanding it at first sight, and that it could not be so mysterious but that I quickly found out its meaning. In earnest, dear brother, you need not go that way to work with me, but may better make use of your authority towards a brother and a servant that never did yet disobey you in any point whatsoever. But my last to you will satisfy you as to that point, for I have already assured you that I will, according to your commands, pass my summer in these parts of France. I did felicitate you in my last for your new son,^a and am much concern'd that he bears my name. I wish with all my heart that he prove as fatt^b and in as

^a Sir George Savile (afterwards Marquess of Halifax) was the eldest son of Sir William Savile, of Thornhill, who died 1643, by Anne, daughter of Thomas Lord Keeper Coventry, and was born 25th August, 1633. His first wife was Dorothy, daughter of Henry, Lord Spencer, Earl of Sunderland, and their eldest son Henry was born in February, 1660-1. She died 16th, and was buried at Thornhill 21st, December, 1670. (MSS. Coll. Arms.)

^b In the volume of "Familiar Letters, written by the Right Hon. John late Earl of Rochester and others," and published in 1697, are nineteen letters address'd by Lord Rochester in and about the year 1679 (the year before his death) to Henry Savile, in which the stoutness of Savile's person is more than once alluded to.

fare-liking as his namesake, and that he may have his health as perfect as it has pleased God to give it me. In all other things I would have him resemble you, and be your successour in all your good qualities, for, without flattering you, I am confident the best wish that I can wish him is that he may be like his father. As for the pleasures that you tell me there are to be had in these parts, I confess they would be very great ones to one that was not of my humour; but neither of them are extraordinary for me; for, as for matter of fruit, I eat as little as any body of my age, that naturally is given to eat a great deal, and as for ladyes, the fairest cannot tempt me, for I am as rightly cut out for a batchelor as ever was man, and therefore I am much obliged to nature that made me a younger brother.

In my last to you I sent you word that Lady-day approached, and now that it is past, and you know my rents are not so great as to serve me much above quarter day, so that I do humbly desire you to let me receive that which was due to me the last Ladyday.^a I suppose you will not refuse me, considering that all the money I spend abroad is only to render me capable to do you service at my returne; for I dare say, dear brother, that had you chosen your brother amongst all the men in the world, you would never have found one that would have loved you better or that would desire with more passion to approve himself,

Most dear brother, your most passionately affect. brother and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

I pray present my most humble service to my Lady Dorothy.

^a He became entitled on his father's death to a small family estate at Barroughby, Notts.

II.

SAME to SAME.

DEAR BROTHER,

Madrid, December ye 5th, 1663.

Since I writ to you from Bourdeaux we have been so diligent in performing our journey that we have been in this town a week, which seems already to be a year; so wretched and miserable a place we are got into. It is really so much worse than Grantham in all kinds that I cannot but wish myself in some inn there, where, I am confident, it is easier to be provided with all manner of conveniences than in any town in Spain. That it is warmer at the Orcades than here nobody doubts, but I suppose they have chimneys there to warm them; but we can find none here, nor any thing else that is used in any other part of the world; there is neither house to live in, bed to lye in, coach to go in, chair to sit on, nor garden to walk in, that are not contrived in such a manner that without asking it is impossible to know what they are. My Lord Sunderland^a and Mr. Sydney will, I believe, agree with me in the character of this worthy town, and, since my lord writes to you this post, I will say no more of it, but leave it to him to inform you how happy men we are. His lordship has got the victory over us both in travelling, for he has borne his journey without the least trouble of either fatigue or indisposition, whilst both Mr. Sydney and myself were eternally out of order, and have not yet so well recovered our voyage but that almost every day we have some ill hours. I have lately received none from my ague, which I hope is quite gone, or at least that it will not trouble me any more whilst I stay here, for Madrid and an ague too would be a double curse. I will not trouble you

^a Robert Spencer, second Earl of Sunderland, was now just of age, and must have been travelling to complete his accomplishments with his cousin Sidney and his sister's brother-in-law. Eight years afterwards (1671), Sunderland began his public life as ambassador to Madrid.

with my small affairs; I will write them to Mr. Ryder, who will acquaint you with them. There is so little else to be done here that we must learn Spanish in our own defence, though I intend to do it with a good will, and hope to succeed accordingly. I confess I should be very sorry not to have a good share of that and other languages, because those are the necessary qualities that are to make me fit to be governour to Mr. Mopp, an employment I do expect when he is big enough to make tours; in the mean time I desire an office under that worthy person his father, which is that of being in a civil way,

Dear brother, your most affectionate br. and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

III.

SAME to SAME.

DEAR BROTHER,

London, May y^e 4th, 1665.

I think it no small complement for me to omitt the necessary duty of Hyde Park only to keep my word with you and write this post. I am come newly from my Lord of Orrery's^a new play called The Widow, whose character you will receive from better hands. I will only say that one part of it is the humour of a man that has great need to go to the close stool, where there are such indecent postures as would never be suffered upon any stage but ours, which has quite turn'd the stomach of so squeamish a man as I am, that am used to see nothing upon a theatre that might not appear in the ruelle of a fine lady.

Yesterday the queen mother did give her last resolutions to

^a Roger Boyle, Earl of Orrery. His poems were published in folio in 1681. He was also author of English Adventures, by a Person of Honour, published in the Savoy in 1676, and on this novel Otway's Orphan is founded. This play of The Widow is not mentioned in the Biographia Dramatica.

the king, that she intends within a month to go into France;^a her health is the reason given, but we that come from those parts think it her kindness to Madame to instruct her how to carry herself in the great intrigues of that place, where you know the women have always a hand. I think yet of going on Monday, though my Lord Arlington told me today there may be some danger unless I go just when the king sends his express, of which I shall consider; in the mean time I begin already to be weary of this empty town now you and most of those I care for are out of it. I suppose you will hear at Rufford^b from my Lord Sunderland himself of the progress he makes in his amours, of which I know very little, his necessary visits having obliged him to be in places where I could not see him but very seldom, and never alone. My father Chicheley's addresses to my lady Carlisle do now begin to make a noise. Mr. Russell's to Mrs. Brookes is thought to be quite ended. My lord of Rochester is encouraged by the king to make his to Mrs. Mallet. My equipage for sea^c will cost me more than you are worth. My Lord Castleton goes this week into the country; Sir Thomas Yarborough and his lady go tomorrow. Yesterday the dutchess kept a fast for the duke's posterity. The plague is in Southampton Buildings.^d You care very little for news of so small importance, but the ladies possibly do, to whom and yourself I humbly kiss the fair hands.

Adieu, mon cher Frere.

^a The queen mother arrived a second time in England after the Restoration, on 28th July, 1662, and had Somerset House assigned to her as a residence. She returned to France in 1665, where she died 10th August, 1669.

^b The seat of Sir George Savile in Notts. It had been a Cistercian monastery.

^c It will be seen that the sea was the occupation in which he took most interest.

^d The plague broke out in London in December 1664, but was checked by a hard frost that lasted till the middle of April: in June and July the disease extended itself rapidly over the town, and reached its height in the week ending 19th September. (See Notices of the Last Great Plague, *Archæologia*, vol. xxxvii. 1.)

IV.

HENRY SAVILE to Lady DOROTHY SAVILE.

MADAM,

London, Thursday night.

I am to believe you are very angry with me for not writing, but I hope you will be appeased when you know that I have been out of town upon an embassy that my master sent me to the queen.^a That Tunbridge is the most miserable place in the world is very certain, and that the ladys do not look with very great advantage at three of the clock in the morning is as true.^b I was at Penshurst to see your brother, who is so fatt he can hardly stir, but I did neither see my Lord of Leicester nor my Lady Diana, for I was there betimes in the morning and stay'd but half an hour. The two fleets were yesterday engaged, but the success is not yet known.^c By the next post I shall send you word whether you are likely to have your captain again, or whether he is to be valiant and defend his country; in the mean time we are here very confident. Mr. Digby^d commands a ship, but is by a strange accident out of the fight,

^a In 1665 Henry Savile was appointed Groom of the Bedchamber to the Duke of York, and so continued till 1672, his salary being 500*l.* a year. Pepys, under date of 16th November, 1665, says that the Duchess of York had "fallen in love with her new Master of the Horse, one Harry Sidney, and another Harry Savile." (Diary, ii. 343.)

^b For the amusements of Tunbridge Wells, see Grammont's *Memoirs*, chap. xii. 325, and *Notes and Queries*, second series, vol. vi. 8.

^c The letter refers to the action off Lowestoft, 3 June, 1665, between the Duke of York and Opdam, in which the English fleet was victorious. Waller wrote a poem on the occasion, intituled "Instructions to a Painter for the Drawing of the Posture and Progress of His Majesty's Forces at Sea, under the command of his Highness Royall."

^d Francis Digby, second son of George Earl of Bristol. He had been Lieutenant in the Royal Charles, and now (1666) had the command of the Jersey; in 1667 he had the Greenwich, and in 1668 the Montague. In all of which he shewed so much gallantry that on the first rumour of the second Dutch war, 1672, he was promoted to the Henry, 72 guns, and was killed in the action of 28th May, 1672, in which Lord Sandwich also fell. (Charnock's *Biogr. Navalis*, i. 222.)

for the day before the battle his main mast was struck down with thunder, so that he was fain to come to port to mend it. The only volunteers that are gone lately are, my Lord of Rochester,^a George Hamilton, and Sir Thomas Clifford. My Lady Southampton comes from the waters^b this week, and the ladies here begin to go down to pay their duty to her Majesty. My Lady Denham goes this night, my Lady Castlemain and Lady Falmouth go the next week. My Lady Sunderland^c goes to Penshurst on Tuesday, and so returns hither with her lord without going to Petworth, which was their first design. My Lady Anne Boyle has been very sick, but is well enough recovered to be married to Sir Francis Popham the next week. My Lord of Leicester expects his son Harry^d every day from Ireland; but I had a letter from him last night, where he says nothing of his return. 'Tis said my Lady Muskerry^e is to be married to Sir Richard Temple. My Lady Mordaunt has been extream ill, but is recover'd. My uncle Harry Coventry^f is to go ambassadour to Venice; and I must go about my own business.

^a He joined the Earl of Sandwich's ship the "Revenge," and displayed great courage in the attack on the Dutch fleet in the port of Bergen.

^b Tunbridge Wells.

^c Dorothy Sidney, daughter of the Earl of Leicester, sister of Algernon Sidney, and the Sacharissa of Waller. Fenton, editing Waller's poems, 1730, did not know when she was born. She was born at Sion House, and baptised at Isleworth 5th October, 1617, whilst her grandfather was yet in prison. She had married Henry Spencer, first Earl of Sunderland, killed at the first battle of Newbury, September, 1643, and remarried Sir Robert Smythe.

^d Henry Sidney, afterwards Earl of Romney.

^e Lord Muskerry resided at Summer Hill, near Tunbridge Wells, where he entertained the court, and made great improvements at the Wells for the accommodation of visitors. He was killed in the naval action with Opdam, 3rd June, 1665. (See Grammont's Memoirs, chap. xii. 323.)

^f Afterwards (1672) Secretary of State, brother of Sir William Coventry. Andrew Marvell thus describes them :

All the two Coventrys their generals chose,
For one had much, the other nought to lose ;
Not better choice all accidents could hit,
While Hector Harry steers by Will the Wit.

V.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir GEORGE SAVILE.

DEAR BROTHER,

Thursday night.

I writ to you the last post, but would not trouble you with news, since the ladies have now a so much better correspondant in town, that I am only to entertain you with your own affairs. I shall not send you a sword and belt unless you will go to the full price of that which is modish; a handsome belt will cost eight pounds, and if you have a sword for six more you are a happy man; but, least you should repine at my extravagance, I thought good to acquaint you before hand, that so you may resolve to approve of my prodigality. I am so extreamly concern'd for my Lady Sunderland's finger, which Lady Pen^a tells me is worse than we hoped for, that you are not to expect the least bitt of wit in a letter till she is recover'd, for which she has the daily prayers of

Yours, &c.

H. SAVILE.

My most humble service to Lady Dorothy.

VI.

HENRY SAVILE to Lady DOROTHY SAVILE.

MADAM,

London, May ye 31st, '66.

I have been less diligent in writing to Rufford, since both your brother and sister are in town, who I am to suppose do not let you want news, since you love it so well, and they have no specious pretence to be silent; for my own part, all my omissions ought to be pardoned, and you are to presume that a member of the court cannot be without business enough to serve for an excuse for not writing. I confess though I should have employed my rhetorick to

^a Wife of Sir William Penn, father of the famous Quaker.

my Lady Sunderland, but I cannot have the confidence to mention her wound till I am assured that 'tis cured. My Lord Ashley is gone this day to St. Giles's very weak and sick. Your brother is in town, and plays for all he's worth. Mrs. Temple was marry'd to Sir Charles Lyttleton on Tuesday last. Mrs. De Vie and my Lord Freschville follow their example the next week. They say she is to be lady of the dutchesses bedchamber. The Dutch are come out with 72 ships; 35 of ours are separated from the main body of the fleet to go look out Monsieur Beaufort at La Rochelle; Prince Rupert commands them.^a I had a letter last night out of Ireland from our friend Harry, who says he is like to stay there a good while yet. Pray send a chiding letter to your sister for keeping the worst company of any young lady in town, and do not fill up your letters to her with saying I am an odious creature, for I am a very worthy person. She will write you some great news that I sent her because I dare not write it myself. I will not put your honour to any further trouble, because I am your honour's most humble Servant,

H. S.

VII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir GEORGE SAVILE.

DEAR BROTHER,

London, June y^e 19th.

My late silence having been occasion'd by my waiting and journey to the fleet with the king and duke, will need no further excuse. We left the navy in good forwardness of repair,^b and are in hopes of sending a good fleet out within a fortnight, which is very soon considering how very much all the ships were maim'd. Sir John

^a The French fleet had not yet left the Mediterranean.

^b The famous action between Albemarle's division of the English fleet and the Dutch fleet under De Ruyter, off the North Foreland, lasted four days, from the 1st to the 4th of June. Both sides published their versions. Dr. Bliss had a copy of the Dutch statement, entitled "Sea Battel between the fleet of England and the United Netherlands, 1666." It was acknowledged by De Ruyter to have been his hardest fight.

[Hanmer] and F. Hollis^a have got immortal fame, and are extremely in the favour of their generals and our Sovereigns. I shall, according to your directions, keep your picture till you come to town. I have not been yet with my cousin Savile, but will go to-morrow. My Lord Sunderland is gone to Tunbridge a winner above 2000*l*. I have had H. Jarmin before the groom-porter, who cannot decide the wager till he knows whether the money was staked upon the table or no, of which Mr. Jarmin desires him to be judge, for he says he has forgot. My Lord Buckingham is expected here to-night. My most humble service to my Lady Sunderland and Lady Dorothy.

Your most obedient, &c.

H. SAVILE.

VIII.

HENRY SAVILE to the LADY SUNDERLAND.

MADAM,

London, June y^e 22, 66.

If the unfortunate accident that happen'd to your ladyship by my rudeness could have been remedy'd by my concern, neither you that had the wound nor I that gave it should have endured half the trouble it has put us to, and, though I might make it an argument of some ease to myself that your ladyship is out of grain, yet, when I hear that your finger is become wholly useless, I cannot conceive what pittance will countervail so high an offence, or that any repentance should ever absolve me; this I know, that, though your ladyship should have so much mercy as ever to forgive me, I will never pardon myself whilst I live, or at least it shall be the last thing I do upon my death-bed; in the mean time, though I had ten times as much blood in my cheekes as you have lost from your fair hand, I can never blush enough to have been the author of so great

^a Sir John Hanmer, in command of the "Henry" 72, most gallantly saved her from the fire-ships, and ran her disabled into Harwich, killing the Admiral of Zealand in the last broadside. (Charnock's Biogr. Naval, i. 97.) Fretcheville Hollis commanded the "Cambridge;" he was much distinguished as a naval officer, and was killed on board that ship in the battle of Solebay, 1672.

a misfortune. Were I in a condition of giving you the Scripture recompence, I should be too happy, but, since all my whole worthless body is of so little value, an eye for an eye, or a hand for a hand, would come far short of the satisfaction I ought to pay for rendering useless the fairest hand in the world. What will they say that used to have of your ladyship's letters? To offer myself to your ladyship for your secretary is so poor a satisfaction to them, that I shall raise the whole commonwealth of writers against me to give them my stile after having disabled the most eloquent pen in England. All this and more I am to suffer, and yet not half what I deserve; yet it will be some comfort to me in the midst of my afflictions, if, abstracting once from this last misfortune, your ladyship be pleased to believe that I am with all respect and truth,

Madam, your ladyship's most faithfull, most humble, and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

IX.

SAME to SAME.

MADAM,

London, July ye 7th, 66.

To owe your ladyship a letter a week is a piece of ill manners that I am confident could never have happen'd to me but in time of war, when to prepare ourselves to be rude to the enemy we are fain to practise where 'tis least allowable. I confess, madam, the honour you were pleased to do me did very well deserve a speedy acknowledgement, but then I am to tell you again that I was so much surprised with it that I was not till now well enough recover'd to render you my most humble thanks. But, besides your letter, when I remember that you sent me my pardon, I begin to fear this will never come to your hands, for, unless you had been dyeing when you sealed my forgiveness, it could never enter into your head to absolve me of so great a crime, so that it looks more like an imposition of the minister to provide you for Heaven, then the voluntary

action of a mercifull lady. Be it what it will, I am abundantly overjoyed that there remains no rancour either in your finger or your mind, so that my affliction is to be cured with your wound, and I have now nothing to do but entertain my fancy with the pleasant imaginations what great execution I am like to do upon an enemy, when my hands are so apt to shed blood, that they could not forbear spilling some of that for which I would willingly lose all my own; but you will have better champions, especially now you have a captain of your own, who, notwithstanding all the tyes and obligations he has to your ladyship, cannot possibly be fuller of zeal to your service, then,

Madam, your ladyship's most faithfull, most humble, and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

X.

HENRY SAVILE to SIR GEORGE SAVILE.

DEAR BROTHER,

London, August 2nd, 66.

By this time I imagine you may be of opinion that your military capacity will not be very long in vogue, and that from a great captain you may return to a country knight. How you will take the change I know not; but, as you have yet some time to be in command, you may provide arguments of comfort against you are out of it. The noise of our victory does daily encrease, and the Dutch are said to have lost such quantity's of men as they will hardly recover, unless they recruit with landsmen. H. Sydney is come over, and is now at Penshurst, whence we expect my Lord and Lady Sunderland this night. The queen and her court will be here on Tuesday. The king is come back already. My Lord Windsor is in town; he came to receive his troop, but they were disbanded before he came. Here is no news, and so adieu.

XI.

SAME to SAME.

DEAR BROTHER,

London, August ye 9th, 66.

My uncle Coventry^a sent you word the last post that I am going to try my fortune once more at sea, against the will both of my friends and all my acquaintance, having given them no reason for this sudden resolution. I would not have you think I have none because I do not tell it; if I dye you will know it, and possibly approve it: in the mean time I desire you not to trouble your head with guessing, but continue your kindness to me, and care no more whether I come back againe or no then does your most affectionate brother and humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

XII.

HENRY SAVILE to Lady DOROTHY SAVILE.

MADAM,

London, August ye 9th, 66.

You that have heard most odious things of me shall hear yet one worse, which is, that I am going to sea: if you would know the reason,

I go to dye, and in earth's bowells hide
A soul the angry gods cannot abide.

Further newes is, that Sir John Coventry is come to towne. Harry Sydney is returned from his father's, but is not permitted to come to Court. My cousin Thynne^b is come out of France, and is to be groom of our bedchamber. To-morrow I set sail, and it is not impossible but I may be fortunate enough never to see England more. Whatever becomes of me, as long as I am a servant to any body, I shall be it perfectly to your ladyship.

^a Sir William Coventry.

^b Thomas Thynne, murdered by Count Conigsmark, 12 February, 1681-2.

XI.

SAVILE to SAMUEL

London, August 7, 1811, 68.

DEAR BROTHER,

My uncle Coventry* sent you word the last post that I am going to try my fortune once more at sea, against the will both of my friends and all my acquaintances, having given them no reason for this sudden resolution. I would not have you think I have none because I do not tell it; if I dye you will know it, and possibly approve it in the mean time I desire you not to trouble your head with guessing, but continue your kindness to me, and care no more whether I come back again or no than does your most affectionate brother and humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

XII.

HENRY SAVILE to Lady DOROTHY SAVILE.

London, August 7, 1811, 68.

MADAM,

You that have heard most odious things of me shall hear yet one worse, which is, that I am going to sea: if you would know the

TERRON,

I go to sea, and in earth's bowels hide
A soul the angry gods cannot abide.

Further news is, that Sir John Coventry is come to London. Harry Sydney is returned from his father's, but is not permitted to come to Court. My cousin Thynne^b is come out of France, and is to be groom of our bedchamber. To-morrow I set sail, and it is not impossible but I may be fortunate enough never to see England more. Whatever becomes of me, as long as I am a servant to any body, I shall be it perfectly to your ladyship.

* Sir William Coventry.
^b Thomas Thynne, married to Countess Coningsby, 12 February, 1681-2.

XIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir GEORGE SAVILE.

From on board y^e Royal Charles, riding at anchor in
Southwold Bay, August y^e 27, 66.

DEAR BROTHER,

I have been in some pain since my being here that I did not hear from you, imagining that you might be angry with me for this sea expedition; but my Lord Mulgrave brought me this morning two from you. The last expresses your concern so amply for me, that it is impossible for me ever to express my thanks to you; it is enough that, whatever becomes of me, I shall always be full of great and thankfull acknowledgements to you for your extraordinary kindness to me, which never did yet come in doubt with me. Though, according to the strict rules of it, I do confess I ought to have acquainted you with my design before I undertook it, but your distance may serve for one excuse, though, to speake the truth, had you been nearer I do not believe I should have told you my secret. To vindicate myself from the great giddyness my uncle accused me of, I did just before my leaving the town tell him the occasion of it, with such an imposition of secrecy as I shall think it safe in his breast; in the mean time, the season of my coming, before there was any probability of a fight for some time, gave the learned occasion to give their judgments. If I come back, it will be difficult for me not to discover the occasion of this prank by committing some new one, if it be not prevented this time by my death, and in that case I have left a letter for you in the hands of my uncle, which will clear me to you. Whether you will know it by that or from me, will now soon be decided, for we have news just now that the Dutch are out, and we hope to reach them in two days; so that in order to prepare myself for an enemy it will be time to take leave of a friend, and put you to no farther trouble at present than what your concern for me will give you. I pray make that as little as you can, and you will the more oblige,

My dearest brother, your most passionately affect. brother, and
most faithful humble servant,

H. SAVILE.

XIV.

SAME to SAME.

Tuesday night.

I do trust so little in my narrative still, that I have thought the Gazette the best relation I could send you. We hear more that John Evartzon is killed. We have lost nobody worth hanging,^a and I do not know anything worth writing.

Yours in all humble submission.

I had almost forgot to tell you that all the militia troops, such as my Lord of Richmond's, Lord Windsor's, Lord Maynard's, H. Jarmyn's, Sir Walter Vane's, &c. are disbanded; I suppose your turn may come next.^b

XV.

SAME to SAME.

Tuesday, London, June y^e 18th, '67.

Affairs here are not so much alter'd since you went hence as you may imagine. The Dutch are with their whole fleet at the Buoy of the Nore,^c where our "R. Charles" rides their admirall, after all our reports that she was burnt.^d

Yesterday an Ostender came hither that was kept by them eight days in the river of Chatham. He tells us that they have no

thoughts of coming up this river; that once they intended it, but

^a The second fight off the North Foreland, in which De Ruyter's line was broken and the English were decidedly victorious.

^b There is here a break of ten months in the correspondence, during which the fire of London happened and the disgrace of Buckingham took place.

^c The Dutch fleet under De Ruyter and Van Ghent had arrived at the Nore on the 8th of June. Ghent left it on the 10th; and on the 12th, ascending the river to Chatham, recaptured and burnt the "Unity," "Matthias," and "Charles the Fifth," and afterwards took the "Royal Charles," which had been left in an exposed situation down the river. On the following day Ghent again sailed up the Medway: burnt the "London," the "James," and the "Royal Oak," with some smaller vessels, and destroyed Sheerness.

^d The Royal Charles, of 80 guns, had been the flagship of the Duke of York, as Lord High Admiral.

afterwards did wholly change the design, and intend to go to the northwards,—we imagine it may be to burn our colliers at Newcastle. We are grown mighty valiant here by our fortifications at Woolwich, as well as by having had time for our pannick fears to vanish. There is no manner of news come, though we have expected it these two days, of what is done in France or Flanders, and the best part of our security is, in my opinion, our hoping we are safe from a foreign enemy for all they are so near us. This city did intend to petition the king to call the parliament immediately, but were prevented by a message of his to them, to let them know that he would consider of it, and tell them the result of a debate of council concerning it, in a little time. The board has had it before them all this day.

By the next post you shall know it in the North, for we are not yet certain at Whitehall; however, we hope well. Commissioner Pett was sent for from Chatham, and sent the last night to the Tower. He is most undoubtedly to be sacrificed; all that are greater lay the fault upon him in hopes that he is to bear all the blame;^a the town has no mind to be so satisfy'd. What will happen time is to shew. Your wife and little chits^b went away yesterday in fine cool weather for their journey. This letter is long enough for a man that is in waiting. When the town has more news, though I have but little leisure, you shall be acquainted with all that can be told you by, &c.

^a Andrew Marvell satirised this proceeding:—

All our miscarriages on Pett must fall;
His name alone seems fit to answer all.
Whose counsel first did this mad war beget?
Who all commands sold thro' the navy? Pett.
Who did advise no navy out to set?
And who the ports left unprepared? Pett. &c. &c.

See also Pepys' Diary, vol. iii. 258, 393-4. Pett was afterwards impeached for neglect of duty to the Fleet, but seems to have escaped. (State Trials, vi. 866.)

^b The other children were Anne, born 1663, for whom Halifax wrote his "Advice to a Daughter," and who became the wife of John Lord Vaughan; William, born 1665, who became second Marquess, and ob. s. p. masc. 1700; and George, born 1667, dangerously wounded at the siege of Buda, 1686, and died s. p. according to Banks (iii. 334), in 1688.

afterwards did wholly change the design, and intend to go to the north-wards,—we imagine it may be to burn our colleges at Newcastle. We are grown mighty valiant here by our fortifications at Wolsingham, as well as by having had time for our gunnicks here to vanish. There is no manner of news come, though we have expected it these two days, of what is done in France or Flanders, and the best part of our security is, in my opinion, our hoping we are safe from a foreign enemy for all they are so near us. This city did intend to petition the king to call the parliament immediately, but were prevented by a message of his to them, to let them know that he would consider of it, and tell them the result of a debate of council concerning it, in a little time. The board has had it before them all this day.

By the next post you shall know it in the North, for we are not yet certain at Whitehall; however, we hope well. Commissioner Pett was sent for from Chatham, and sent the last night to the Tower. He is most undoubtedly to be sacrificed; all that are greater lay the fault upon him in hopes that he is to bear all the blame; the town has no mind to be so satisfied. What will happen time is to show. Your wife and little child went away yesterday in fine cool weather for their journey. This letter is long enough for a man that is in writing. When the town has more news, though I have but little leisure, you shall be acquainted with all that can be told you by, &c.

— Andrew Marvell attended this proceeding: —

All our addresses on Pett must fall;
His name alone seems fit to answer all.
Whom counsel had till this end was lost?
Who all commands will this way? Pett.
Who did advise us now out to set?

And who the poets best interpreters? Pett. &c. &c.

See also Pope's Dunciad, vol. II. 225, 203-4. Pett was afterwards imprisoned for neglect of his duties, but seems to have escaped. (State Trials, VI. 885.)
The other children were Anne, born 1688, for whom Halifax wrote his "Advice to a Daughter," and who became the wife of John Lord Vaughan; William, born 1695, who became second Marquis, and d. s. p. m. 1750; and George, born 1697, dangerously wounded at the siege of Dender, 1696, and died s. p. according to Burke (II. 381), in 1698.

XVI.

SAME to SAME.

Thursday, London, June ye 20th, '67.

I came late last night from Chatham, where the Duke [of York] has been to see how affairs stand. The hearts of the people are somewhat more cheerfull then when you saw them, but will not yet believe but they shall have a second visit from the enemy the next spring tide, which will be on Wednesday next: that time is to shew, but there is the less appearance of it since the Dutch are retired into the gun fleet, and supposed rather to have some designs northwards upon our colliers at Newcastle * then any where else. My Lord of Carlisle is gone this morning to give his helping hand to prevent them. The French have taken Tournay and are now besieging Courtray, which makes us believe them too busy in Flanders to attempt any thing upon us; in the mean time the report goes that their fleet is coming to the Downs, but we have no manner of certainty of what they do. By the last from Breda, which was before our business at Chatham, the Dutch were so high in their demands that it is not to be expected they will fall with their victorys; they have sent the "Royal Charles" in triumph into Holland. 'Tis said that nobody in the councill was against calling a parliament, but the Duke, my Lord Chancellor, and Sir George Cartwright, the rest unanimously, and our friend violently, for calling it presently; however, the power of the others has so far prevailed that as yet we hear no more of it. My Lords Craven, Middleton, Gerrard, and Berkeley, are appointed for lieutenant-generalls in their several stations. This morning the Duke of Cambridge dyed.

* They were closely followed up by Sir Edward Spragge, and were forced to retire to their own coast without doing further injury in England.

XVII.

SAME to SAME.

London, July 5^e 16th, '67.

My expedition to Harwich being longer than that of the Duke's by two days, I came home but just time enough to enter into waiting, in which pleasant condition I now am; and that has both hinder'd me from writing to you the last post and will make this the shorter. We do at this moment hear gunns very plainly, but are uncertain whether they are at Harwich, Sheerness, or in our own fancys. My Lord of Buck. is come out of the Tower; he has not yet kissed the King's hand, but 'tis said he shall very soon. Sir Stephen Fox has offer'd me money for you, which I will send when I know where you would receive it; pray let me know the next post. Pray make my excuse to my Lady Dorothy, whose hands I kiss, with those of my Lady Sunderland and Lady Pen.

XVIII.

SAME to SAME.

London, July 5^e 22nd, '67.

My excessive care and diligence has at last removed all difficultys in your muster-roll; and both yourself and your trumpeters shall to-morrow have great wealth in your draper's hands. Your letter to my Lord of Buckingham was also deliver'd; he is extreemly your servant. I wonder what crotchet is in your head to imagine there is any secret in the rencontre of my Lord Sund.; if there were any I suppose I should have known it, having been with him in a very few hours after it happen'd, and, in spight of any silly report that you may have heard, do assure you it was nothing but a rogue that leap'd from behind a hedge and cry'd "Zounds! your money," and in the same moment gave him two stabbs before he had time to draw his sword. The little news there is in town I have cram'd into

my Lady Dorothy's letter, who pretends such a title to that privilege that I dare not write any thing to you but that I am your most submissive younger brother and most diligent servant.

XIX.

SAME to SAME.

London, August 27, 1667.

I had intended you a letter by the carryer, but, nobody coming for it, it was not sent, but burnt, though there was nothing in it but what now may be very well trusted with the post, which is the persecution of my Lord Chancellour, who is not yet sure of keeping his seales, though he desires them only till the Parliament sits, before whom he will stand in his justification against all articles that shall be brought against him. This storm is wholly raised by our friend,^a and wholly opposed with the greatest violence imaginable by my master,^b which has caused a great deal of anger there. The whole story with all its circumstances is much too long to write, so that I shall not venture at it; you will hear it from all hands, and I will tell it you myself either at Althrope^c or Fotheringhay when we meet; at least this will positively answer your question as to the sitting of the Parliament, of which now I suppose nobody will doubt.

My Lord Chesterfield is given over by the physicians: in case he dye, by Arthur Stanhope's advancement to the peerage, I am sure you may help me to be burgess of Nottingham,^d which without further disputing, if you do not do, I shall take it for the highest unkindness I can in nature receive from you. The Bishop of Salisbury^e is dead, and the Bishop of Exeter^f our friend advanced to that

^a The Duke of Buckingham.

^b Charles took a dislike to Clarendon, and was active in his hostility. See his Letter to the Duke of Ormond dated 15th Sept. 1667 (Ellis, 2d Ser. iv. p. 39); but the Duke of York stood firm to his father-in-law.

^c Lord Sunderland's house.

^e Alexander Hyde.

^d There was no vacancy.

^f Seth Ward.

see. I had your letter only this day, and have not yet given Sir Stephen Fox the inclosed, but shall this night. The Duke of Buckingham is yet in town, and very far from having any correspondence with the Chancellour, as you heard. I rather think him engaged where we wish him. The times are so busy that I can neither say more to you, nor any thing to the ladies, only present my humble duty to yourself, my Lady Sunderland, Lady Dorothy, and Lady Pen.

H. S.

XX.

SAME to SAME.

London, Sept. 5th '67,

To-morrow the great caravan goes down to Althrope: one of the reasons I am not of the number is, that there is no room in the coach, but I think I should have strained that point, and come melancholy in my own chariot alone, but that my absence would be otherwise look'd upon now than at another time, and construed as some dissatisfaction either of my uncle's concern or my own, of which there being nothing, my discretion will not give occasion of guessing things that are not; all that is here worth your knowledge you will either have learnt from the letter Sir William [Coventry] writ to you on Tuesday, which he shew'd me, or from the discourse you may have from H. Sydney, whom I entrusted with all you can know of me. Our friend has the greatest mind in the world to have you in town, though he has no present argument to invite you hither. If you look upon his last letter, at the bottom of it, there is a blott, which was the beginning of a sentence to draw you hither. I am so much perswaded that it were of use to you to shew yourself at present that I could wish it most heartily. He has this morning bought a house of Sir Thomas Clarges for fourteen hundred pounds; 'tis one of those four pretty handsome ones in Pall Mall by my Lady Ranelagh's.* Not knowing how to write to you

* This is an early notice of the houses built in Pall Mall.

till I knew you were at Althorpe, I have not yet given you any account of your money I received from Sir Stephen Fox.^a I made use of the blank you sent me for the acquittance, but have taken order that it should be so drawn as not to do you any prejudice, of which this is the copy; besides I shall have your acquittance of York from him as soon as it comes to his hands. The sum I had was 47*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, but the deduction of groats and fees as it was the last time left me only 41*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.*, for which I am accountable to you upon my next Michaelmas quarter according to your own orders. I have delivered your greyhound to Harry Sydney's servant, who will convey him to you, and when once you have him I hope you will forget the former miscarriages concerning him, though upon my word they were not occasion'd by any neglect of mine: if you have a mind to another, I am offer'd an excellent good one, but I believe this will serve you. My Lord of Buckingham has made but few visits to court since he came out of his troubles, but was yesterday two hours alone with the King in his closet, which esclaireissement I hope will be to his advantage. I have not seen him since myself, and so cannot give you any account of it. I will not put you to any further trouble, but leave you to the good company that is and will be at Althorpe.

XXI.

SAME to SAME.

London, Sept. y^e 17th, '67.

Yesterday the King and Duke (of York) went to Bagshot, where they stay hunting till Saterdag: the day before they went, the Duke of Buckingham was restored to all his dignities and employments which he was in possession of before his misfortunes, by which means some think the Earl of Burlington is no longer Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire, but he had a troop of horse given him in Ireland supposed to be vacant by the death of my Lord Dungannon, who is reported now to be alive again; if it prove so, it must be

^a Sir Stephen Fox was at this time paymaster of the army.

allowed that his lordship is a very lucky person. Yesterday my Lady Shrewsbury,^a with only one chambermaid, took her heels, and they say is gone either into a monastery or to kill Harry Killebrew herself, since none of her relations will undertake it, but her Lord has sent to Dover and Rye^b to stop her if it be possible. My Lord Allington has buried his wife and son, so that he is once more a good match: there is also a certain Lady Hollis dead, she that is sister to my Lady Scroop. My Lady Holland has the smallpox. To shew how men thrive that suffer for conscience' sake, George Hamilton goes into France with 200 of the guards that were Catholics, who are to be call'd there, Les Gens d'armes de Madame, and the employment will be worth him above 3,000*l.* a-year. My Lord George Douglass goes with his regiment back into France, with leave to recruit it to the number of two thousand, when before it was never above twelve hundred. On Sunday last my Lord Generall, the Marquis of Worcester, and my Lady Suffolk christned the Duke [of York's] son, whose name is Edgar. Yesterday my Lady Castlemain went to Althrope, and will return hither on Saturday. My Lord Buckingham is as much your friend as 'tis possible for a man to be; he gave a testimony of it by speaking to the King the other day about your business, and how seasonable a time this is to do it in.^c Your other friend is as forward as he, and if you were here yourself I do positively think it would be done before the tenth of October. I pray present my most humble duty to my Lady Sunderland, Lady Dorothy, and Lady Pen^d.

^a Anne Maria, daughter of Roger Brudenell, Earl of Cardigan, afterwards the mistress of the Duke of Buckingham, a married man, who killed her husband in a duel in 1668. On 9 August, 1671, Andrew Marvell wrote, "Buckingham runs out of all with Lady Shrewsbury, by whom he believes he had a son, to whom the King stood godfather: it dyed young, Earl of Coventry."

^b Rye was at this time much used as a port for travellers. (See Evelyn's Diary, 4th to 10th June 1652, ed. 1818, vol. i. p. 259.)

^c The proposal to raise Sir George to the Peerage.

^d There are no letters for nearly two years, which included the impeachment of Clarendon; the rise of the Cabal; the attack of Louis XIV. on Flanders; the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle; and the subsequent secret negociation with Louis. By Pepys Diary, (iv. 255-277.)

XXII.

SAME to VISCOUNT HALIFAX.^aParis, Aug. y^e 5th, N. S., '69.

I do intend to make this journey of mine very chargeable to you in letters, for I do not know who else to pitch upon to enclose all those I write to other people. I have made all the visits I came about, and am more at leisure to write, but do not intend to let you know any part of my journey till I can tell it all to you myself; it is very pleasant being here, and if I had but a very few millions I would not stir hence these three months, as it is, towards the latter end of the next week I believe we shall begin our journey towards England. My Lady Lexington,^b with three other widdows, are come hither, and as soon as this letter is writ I intend to visit her in your name: if either yourself or your wife would have anything hence, the sooner you write the better, for what you spoke to me already I shall be sure to provide.

Adieu, yours, &c.

H. S.

XXIII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Sept. y^e 4th, '69 N. S.

Yesterday we took leave of the King, Queen, and Dauphin, and when we have done the same at St. Clou and Colombe, we set forth

we learn that on 1st March, 1668-9, Henry Savile took Sir W. Coventry's challenge to the Duke of Buckingham: and, though the duel was prevented by Lord Arlington, the King was told of it. Sir William Coventry was committed to the Tower, and Savile to the Gatehouse: the Duke of York was incensed at his officer being sent among rogues and not to the Tower: it appears by a subsequent letter of Savile that he was removed to the Tower. Both were discharged on 21st March, but Savile was denied the honour of kissing the King's hand; the Duke was directed not to receive him, to wait upon him in his chamber till further orders: and Savile went abroad for a time.

^a Created Baron and Viscount 13th January, 1668.

^b Widow of Robert Sutton, first Baron Lexington, of Aram, Notts, who died 1668.

on Friday for Havre de Grace in hopes that Mr. Wienn has sent us a yacht thither; if he have not, we must take our fortune. The chief subject of this letter is to acquaint you with the death of my Lady Lexington, whose family is so distracted that I believe they will hardly write this post, and therefore you may give Sir William Coney this account of it, to whom I pray present my most humble service: my lady has had a fever about ten or twelve days; in the beginning of it the physicians advised her to be let blood, of which she would by no means allow till it was so late that they apprehended she would dye in the hands of the surgeons, so that it was not done at all, and was the certain occasion of her dying the last night. Her sister, and one Mrs. Barham, who were here with her, are both sick of fevers also, the former in some danger with the addition of grief. My lady has made some kind of will here, by which she has left the care of her children to Sir Anthony Sellenger as I am told; here is at present nobody with them but an old quaker with a long beard, one Bayly, who I think was prisoner in the Tower^a when I was, and a Frenchman that served my Lord Chesterfield, who is the only one that speaks French in the company, and of whose abilities I do not hear much renown in the managing of a family. I do not love to meddle with other people's business, but I think it were but a piece of good nature to advise their friends in England to send over some understanding man that is used to the country, to assist them in their return, and the carrying my lady's body into England, which she has absolutely commanded; she desired her children might stay this winter in France, but I find that will not be obey'd, for the whole family resolved to go as soon as they are well, being all sick but the children, who are very well. I had your bill, for which I thank you, and shall be just. At my return I will bring you all the catalogues I can, that you may choose what books will please you best, and I shall leave behind a correspondent that will send anything at any time. Adieu. Yours

H. S.

^a See ante p. 22, note ^d.

XXIV.

SAME to SAME.

July ye 1st, '70.

Mons^r Gramont has made a shift to find arguments for our staying till now, and at last will not go, so that without fail we begin our voyage to-morrow, having our letters and every thing ready. The Marechall de Bellefonds has satisfy'd all doubts, and every body is convinced that Madame's death was very natural, so that I believe in a few dayes he will think of returning. My Lady Northumberland came to town on Tuesday last; this afternoon the Queen visits her; the Duke and Dutchess continue at Richmond. I met the other night in St. James's Park my Lord of Ogle, who enter'd into a discourse with me why I did not stand at Redford.^a I quickly shew'd him it was not my fault, but a great respect to his family that you would not promote any interest of your own, but to your power assist any my Lord Duke of Newcastle should favour. He was as full of his complements as I, and I am to believe him the more sincere because he shew'd me a letter from you written after I had spoke to you, where you utterly renounced the naming of anybody. I am pretty sure the court recommendation for S^r Ed. Deering would not stand in competition with such an interest as I am certain is in your power to procure for me, by the assistance of Sir William Hickman, Mr. Stringer, and my cousin Eyre, nor is it less probable you might compliment and collogue my ¹^d duke out of proposing a menial servant of his own against your brother, that was born in the country, and not unknown to him. You must give me leave to think that you can do this if you have the will, which I have as great reason to believe you want as I have to be sensibly troubled at it; and, though I know very well my discretion is very justly called in question by my best friends, yet I cannot but a little wonder that those who do so often advise me to apply myself to business should

^a A new writ was issued 24 Oct., on death of Sir Clifford Clifton.

be so unwilling I should appear upon so considerable a stage of it as the House of Commons. Were I capable of recovering my credit so far as that you should think me fit to sit there, I do not think it were a matter of any difficulty to retrieve this whole matter. God send the latter be not easier than the former! I crave you a thousand pardons for telling you my mind so freely, but it must out or I must burst; and, it being the only act of your life to me that has not savoured of the most perfect and most tender kindness, it were a breach of mine to you not to take notice of it, but that is with all the submission, all the deference, and all the most perfect kindness that one man is capable of having for another, none of which shall ever fail you from your most really affect. obliged brother and servant,

H. SAVILE.^a

XXV.

HENRY SAVILE to the EARL OF ARLINGTON.

[MSS. State Paper Office—Extracts.]

MY LORD,

Paris, 7ber 28
8ber 8 1672.

I troubled y^r l^p with a letter from Calais, and shall take the liberty to trouble you with this from hence, though it can give y^r l^p noe further account of mee and my affaires then that yesterday I came hither to see my L^d Ambassadors, who as well as myself is perfectly resolved to keep the first article in y^r l^ps letter to me, and I hope we may both live to railly our friends in England for mistrusting our discretion in that point. Y^r l^ps most faithful, most humble, and most obedient servant,

HENRY SAVILE.

Earle of Arlington.

^a There is no other letter till Henry Savile was, in October, 1672, sent as envoy to Paris. Among the domestic papers [Oct. 1672,] is a doequet for an allowance of 5*l.* a-day to Henry Savile, appointed to be an Envoy Extraordinary "to our good brother the Most Christian King," for his ordinary entertainment and allowance till his return. The object

XXVI.

SAME to SAME.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, October $\frac{4}{13}$, 1672.

The sicknesse of the Queene and the removall of the King from Versailles to St. Germaine was the occasion of retarding my audience till yesterday. The day before my Lord Ambassador carryed me to Mon^r de Pomponne, to whome it seemes I was to apply my-selfe, notwithstanding that my businesse seemed rather to lye within Mon^r Colbert's province, who, being resolved to have as little trouble as hee can, has wholly disengaged himselfe from all manner of correspondence with strangers, I am too modest to say foreign ministers. However, meeting Mon^r de Segnelay at a visite in Paris, I said soe much to him that, if it doe not get me accesse to his father, at least it will sufficiently informe him of the compliment that was intended him.

The King was pleased to receave mee yesterday in his closet, where hee asked me many and very pertinent questions concerning the whole businesse of the last summer, was very full of the sence of the King's and the Duke's kindnesse to Mon^r d'Estrees and his whole fleet, and seemed much concerned that the fleets should meet very early the next spring, taking particular notice that it was rather good luck than anything else, that some considerable inconvenience did not happen by their joining soe late last yeare. How this concerne agrees with the common reports of the world is not a matter for mee to meddle with, but to leave to y^r l^p. After I have made my court two or three times, I do not find I shall have anything further to doe, unlesse the King or y^r l^p bee pleased to furnish

of the special mission was to secure more cordiality and a closer union between the fleets of the two countries; Louis having become cool in consequence of the assumed favour in which the Prince of Orange was with Charles, and of which ~~Louis~~ Louis complained to Lord Sunderland.

mee with any fresh commands. If I can be of no further use heer, I humbly begg y^r l^p to look out where I may be, and if a begger might choose I could wishe it were abroad; for besides that I see at present great uncertaintyes in any settlement I might hope at home, if I am capable of serving the King at all, I think my small talents will be of most use abroad, where I have spent soe much of my life, that I shall hardly bee an absolute stranger to any place his majesty or y^r l^p may be pleased to send me.

Y^r l^p will pardon the liberty I take to trouble you with my owne concernes, but I am tempted by your justice as well as generosity, being confident one who has soe much of both those as y^r l^p cannot but bee sufficiently convinced that I have had this last summer disappointments enough in court. I doe not expect they should ever cease but by y^r l^{pps} kindnesse, of which I shall with patience and submission hope one day for the effects, and of what ever kind they are, y^r l^p never shall have lesse reason to repent of protecting any man living with your favour then, my lord, y^r l^{pps} most faithfull, most humble, and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Earle of Arlington.

XXVII.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, October 19, N. S. 1672.

I have your letter and first bill, Mr. Talbot's letter and second, by virtue whereof I have received the 200*l*., which shall go as far as it can, but I doubt half must go to the masters of the ceremonies, and whether the rest will do my business time will shew. I crave pardon for my mistake about Sir Stephen Fox, but as I remember Mr. Digby had his money that way, which led me into the error.* His Majesty did with his own mouth promise me 500*l*.

* He had written to Lord Arlington to have an allowance paid through Sir Stephen Fox.

for this voyage, and if my L^d Buckhurst were but half as vigorous as he is good-natured I had had it; however I will try at my return to retrieve this matter myself.

My L^d Sund. does grow every day kinder and kinder to me, and by that time I go hence I shall be able to brag to you that that part of my *mechante affaire* is wholly over;^a and I have reason to think I had made a further step in that matter if some people in England had not been more malicious than they need, and friends there wiser than they are here; however I comfort myself that my behaviour has been approved of here, and therefore I hope will not be blamed at home.

The next week Mr. Godolphin and I set forth for our native country, hoping by that time the hurry of Newmarket will be over.

Pray let all my friends prepare to receive a great deal of trouble from me, for I will be very infortunate, and see if that will do me any good.^b I think I have try'd all other ways, and if this fail at least you will have authority enough to send me so the plantations.

I remember your cook.

Adieu, my dear brother.

Yours, &c.,

H. S.

^a The Earl of Sunderland had succeeded Sidney Godolphin as Ambassador at Paris. It is evident that there had arisen some coolness between him and Savile, for Henry Savile in his letter of the 4th October from Calais to Lord Arlington said, "I need not tell your lordship how willing I am to pay all manner of obedience to the first of your commands as touching my L^d of Sunderland, it being one of the most agreeable circumstances of my voyage that I hope for an opportunity of returning to his friendship, it having all my life been one of the greatest pleasures of it, and the losse of his kindness one of the greatest troubles that ever hapned to me, soe that for any misbehaviour or disrespect on my side your lordship need not doubt either my care or obedience." As the court went to St. Germain on the 10th, Mr. Savile's audience was delayed till the 14th, and he was then conducted to it in "his Majesty's coaches." Lord Sunderland had an audience of the King to prepare his Majesty for the coming, but "could not present him, because he could do nothing publicly as an ambassador till he had made his entry." (MSS. State Paper Office.)

^b He was made Groom of the Chamber to the King.

XXVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, October 26th, N. S. '72.

A man that is in haste to go speak with the Most Christian King does you, I think, honour enough if he tells you yours of the 7th is received, and with it the advice of Mr. Loftus's being willing to succeed me, and upon what terms; to which I can only answer that, being absolutely resolved to sell my place, and being dispensed by his R. H. from any attendance in it till I have disposed of it, you may imagine I shall be very glad to make the best of it, which was out of my power when I treated with Mr. Churchill, because the D.^a limited me to him alone, but, being now free, I suppose I may sell it a *tençan*; and, considering both Mr. Loftus's desires and his condition, if I ask two thousand pounds for it and take eighteen hundred, I think I do not use him ill; if he seem very averse to any such proposition, which I desire may be insisted upon a while, the best terms he shall ever receive from me shall be sixteen hundred, of which I will have twelve hundred down, and the other four at Candlemas, or else pray keep him to a thousand down and eight hundred at Easter, if it be possible, for those are the terms I should best like, nor do I think it improbable he should allow of them. If he consents, I do fully empower you and my cousin Thomas Thynne conjointly, or yourself separately, to agree with him upon these terms, and he shall enter into office at my return; the money to be paid the day before his coming into waiting, I mean the first payment, and good security for the second. I am just going to take my leave of the King, and afterwards I may return when I please, but my lord Amb^{dr} intending to make his entry next week, if my staying some days can make my court

* Of York. The sale of places at court with the assent of the King was common. The other letters shew that Savile had become much dissatisfied with the court, but did not succeed in completing the sale.

to him, I am sure I have no reason to spare that complement of all others; besides, I must contrive to return in the yacht that stays for my Lady Anne Palmer and my L^d Grandison, for the court's being at Newmarket has made any *adresse* I could have made for a yacht for myself very unreasonable, though I think I have title enough to such a favour. Pray if my L^d Harry Howard have the titles I have put on the superscription of the inclosed let him have it, for it is but reasonable to compliment him upon it. If the report of it be false, put the letter to what use you please, but pray let Tom Thynne have his.

H. S.

XXIX.

HENRY SAVILE to THOMAS THYNNE.

[Harl. 7001, p. 281.]

Paris, Octob. 26th, N. S. '72.

Mr. Swift is either a knave or a fool, or both. This you'll say is a pretty beginning of a letter, but the answer hee gave you provokes mee to it. That I have had 150*l*. is true for Lady-day, Midsummer, and Michaelmas, as will easily appeare by my acquittances to him, but for any money receaved as secretary you know yourselfe how little, before I desired you to receive it. I had that grant from his R. H. to receive it.

As to the matter of Mr. Loftus, I have written fully to my brother, and should doe to you, but that you tell mee you goe into the country. However, if it goe on soe faste as I wishe and bee concluded before my returne, I have taken the liberty to name you with my brother to receive the money and agree with him concerning it; not that I would trouble you any more then I need, but because I cannot answere to myselfe making any bargain or doeing any thing of moment to me without desiring both your advice and helpe in it as one of the kindest friends ever man had. With soe good-natured a man as you are I am sure this will be a good excuse.

L[ady] N[orthumberland] stayed soe little after my beeing heer that I ordered my behaviour accordingly, as I have already told you. I thinke it is a faire stepp to begin with to have fully and perfectly reconciled myselfe to our friends heer, who from the beginning have blamed the folly and violence of those in England, and possibly may come one day to bee heard. I thinke it is not the first time I have writt that old sentence to you "*cunctando restituit rem.*"

I am just going to take my leave of the King, who has by his discourse distinguished mee from ordinary envoyes; how hee will do it by his jewells I am yet to know. If this find you in the country, 'tis a long letter as you desired, soe that I will conclude by telling you y^r b. James is come to make mee a visit. Hee lookes extremely well, but has had a sicknesse that his purse has not so well recovered as his person; if you can make y^r family sensible of it, you will doe a great worke and a kind one to poor Jacobus. I hope it will not bee so difficult to persuade my ladye, y^r sisters, and yourself, that I am your most obedient servant,

H. SAVILE.

For Mr. Thynne,
of the Bed-chamber to his R. H.

XXX.

HENRY SAVILE to the EARL OF ARLINGTON.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, Octob. $\frac{13}{20}$, 1672.

I hope I have made my court very well to y^r l^p by not disturbing you at Euston, but, supposing you returned to London, your l^p must be again exposed to these kind of inconveniences.

I acquainted y^r l^p with my first audience; after which, having made my court foure or five times, I demanded my last, which was given mee on Wednesday.

As soon as I came to the King, hee asked mee what was the meaning of S^r Edward Spragg's returne, for hee understood by the King's letter that hee was to stay to disturbe the herring fishery and to secure the coaste from all manner of danger. I told him S^r Ed. had done the businesse hee was sent aboute, having taken some of the busses^a and dispersed the rest, so that in case they should reassemble it would bee to noe purpose, the season being past, and the herrings too farr to the southward for them to find any on the Dogger Banke. Hee said, hee was glad to heare that circumstance, it being what he did not know; his very words were "Je suis bien aise d'entendre ce que vous me dites, car, pour vous dire la vérité, j'en estois un peu scandalisé."

Hee asked mee whether the King would not send any of those shippes out again to secure the coaste; I answered, that his majesty had already settled what shippes should bee in every station, from the mouth of the river as far as the Sorlings,^b and upon the coaste of Ireland, and for what were to bee from the river northwards the King would, besides the convoyes to the shippes bound to and from Newcastle, if hee found it expedient, not onely provide such security as hee was obliged by the articles, but such as his own prudence should direct him in case of an unexpected occasion.

From thence his Majty took occasion to tell mee what care hee had of his coaste, and that, besides what hee is obliged to, hee intends to send out the Comte d'Estrees again, as soon as ever hee is returned, with five of the best conditioned shippes now in his fleet, and nine freshe ones that are ready at Brest and La Rochelle, which, making fourteen, hee hopes may be stronge enough to encounter twelve of the enemyes, which hee heares are to convoy their fleet of merchants from the Streights.

Hee asked mee next if I heard noething of a fleet of merchantmen

^a Sir Edward Spragge, writing from on board the "Resolution," 30th Sept. 1672, said, "Since my last I have taken ten doggers, one busse, and a privateer of eight guns. I am using my best endeavours for the river, having cleared these seas of all fishermen except our own." (Charnock's Biogr. Navalis, i. 73 n.)

^b The Scilly Islands.

of ours that were taken by the Hollanders very lately, of which hee had had intelligence. I told him, by the little knowledge I had lately had of those kind of matters, I could allmost undertake to assure his Majesty wee had noe such fleet now to come home, and that I supposed this might rather bee some bragg of the Dutch, who, beeing willing to prolong their triumphs, meant onely those Barba-does shippes they took some time since, then any thing else. Hee confessed his intelligence was from Holland, and hoped it was not true, as it did accordingly prove; for very soon after, Mon. de Louvoy, receaving contrary advices from thence, did the same afternoon tell my Lord Ambassadors that there was noething of that which his Majesty had mentioned to mee.

The King seemes extreemly concerned for a great and early fleet next summer; hee sais his squadron shall not have one shipp in it of lesse then fifty or eight and forty gunns; that there shall bee seven first and second rates; that in order to this hee has not onely already sent orders to Rochefort for the fitting of such shippes, but has alsoe sent to Thoulon to some that are there to come about to Brest.

Hee ended his discourse to mee with the most zealous expressions of friendship and kindnesse to the King, and the greatest wishes for the continuance of it on both sides that I ever heard from any man in my whole life. In good earnest, I doe hardly see how hee can say much more to his mistresse, nor was hee wanting in telling mee the great esteem and value hee has for his R. Highnesse.

Thus, my lord, has ended my negotiation. God send the King and yr l^p may thinke I have soe behaved myselfe in it as that I may bee thought worthy of some other; in the mean time I prepare to wayte upon yr l^p as soon as I well can, beeing resolved to goe over in the first yatch, either that which carryes my Lady Anne Palmer into England, or that which brings my Lady Sunderland into France; for, the Duke beeing at Newmarket, I thought if I had writt to Mr. Wesden for one, my letter would not have reached him: not but that I thinke I have a pretty good title to such a caste of his office.

of ours that were taken by the Hollanders very lately, of which he had had intelligence. I told him, by the little knowledge I had lately had of those kind of matters, I could almost undertake to assure his Majesty we had not such fleet now as some honest and that I supposed his might rather be some thing of the Dutch, who being willing to protect their triumphs, meant only those Barba does ships they took some time since, than any thing else. He confessed his intelligence was from Holland, and hoped it was no true, as it did accordingly prove for very soon after, when Louvois, receiving contrary advice from thence, did the same afternoon tell my Lord Ambassador that there was nothing of the which his Majesty had mentioned to me.

The King seems extremely concerned for a great and early next winter; he said his squadron shall not have one ship in it less than fifty or eight and forty guns; that there shall be seven first and second rates; that in order to this he has not only a ready sent orders to Rochester for the fitting of such ships; but has also sent to The Hague to some that are there to come to Bristol.

He ended his discourse to me with the most reason expressions of friendship and kindness to the King, and the greatest wish for the continuance of it on both sides that I ever heard from a man in my whole life. In good earnest, I doo hardly see how can say much more to his mistress, nor was hee wanting in telling me the great esteem and value hee has for his R. Highness. Thus my lord, has ended my negotiation. God send the R. and y^e I may think I have not belied myself in it as the may be thought worthy of some other; in the mean time I pare to wayte upon y^e as soon as I well can, being resolved to goe over in the first yatch, either that which carries my Lady Anne Painter into England, or that which brings my Lady dehand into France; for the Duke being at Newmarket, I thought if I had writ to Mr. Weston for one, my letter would not reached him; not but that I think I have a pretty good title such a case of his office.

I presume my Lord Ambassadour acquaints y^r l^p that the Prince of Conde and Duke d'Enguyen went yesterday to Metz, not that any necessity for that voyage is owned by the court, but onely that the King will not let possibility itselfe bee against him, if it can bee prevented by any care of his.

Heer is a complaint come from the great Duke against Mon^r de Martell, who it seemes has threatened doeing some acts of hostility upon some Hollanders in the port of Ligorne. Whether hee has putt his designe in execution wee are yet to hear; if hee has, hee is not likely to be justified heer, at least as it is said.

But what doe I trouble y^r l^p with newes w^{ch} is the province of others; that I may tell y^r l^p something that I hope is very farr from beeing so, I doe most humbly subscribe myselfe, my lord, y^r l^{ps} most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

I had almost forgot to tell y^r l^p that I had at last brought that great businesse about of making a complement to Mon^r Colbert, which hee did receave with great gravity, but did not speake the least word to mee concerning the sea.

Y^r l^{ps} &c. H. S.

Just as I am packing up this, I have y^r l^{ps} of Oct. 11, from Euston Hall, for which I most humbly thanke y^r l^p. I allow my money matters are never better then in my brother's hands, nor those of greater moment then in y^r l^{ps}, to whose protection I most humbly recommend them.

XXXI.

1713405

HENRY SAVILE to VISCOUNT HALIFAX.

Feb. 14, '72-3.

I have had a letter of yours by me almost a fortnight, and have no other reason for not thanking you for it sooner but that, having deferr'd it one post in expectation of my L^d Ambass^{dr} Mor-

I presume my Lord Ambassador acquaints y^e that the Prince of Conde and Duke d'Angoyen went yesterday to Metz, not that any necessity for that voyage is owned by the court, but only that the King will not let possibility itself be against him, if it can be prevented by any care of his.

Here is a complaint come from the great Duke against Monsieur Martell, who it seems has threatened doing some acts of hostility upon some Hollanders in the port of L'igorne. Whether he has put his designs in execution was yet to hear; if he has, he is not likely to be justified here, at least as it is said.

But what does I trouble y^e with news w^{ch} is the province of others; that I may tell y^e something that I hope is very far from being so, I do most humbly subscribe myself, my lord, y^e most faithful and most obedient servant,

HENRY SAVILE

I had almost forgot to tell y^e that I had at last brought that great business about of making a complement to Monsieur Colbert, which hee did receive with great gravity, but did not speak the least word to mee concerning the same.

Just as I am packing up this, I have y^e 1st of Oct. 11. from London Hall, for which I most humbly thank y^e. I allow my money matters are never better than in my brother's hands, not those of greater moment than in y^e 1st, to whose protection I most humbly recommend them.

1713405

XXXI.

HENRY SAVILE to VISCOUNT HALIFAX

Feb. 11. 1722.

I have had a letter of yours by me almost a fortnight, and have no other reason for not thanking you for it sooner but that having deferred it one post in expectation of my 1st Ambassador, Monsieur

taigne's return (whose discourse with you I thought might add more to my occasion of writing) there have been three whole posts detained from all English correspondents in France, so that they are at last come in a glutt, amongst which I have one from S^r W. [Coventry], for which I shall thank him the next post. The politick do not know what to guess of a matter never known to have happened before, and that has no other excuse but *le mauvais temps*, and a complement from the postmaster, *qui demande excuse*. I have therefore thought it best to write by an express that comes from my L^d Sunderland and goes into England, and may doubtless rely enough upon such a way of conveyance, better than on the post, to tell you anything I would have you know. My own private affairs have already been so tedious to you that at least I will leave them to the last, and first acquaint you with some little news from abroad. To begin with Spain, the copy of our amb^{drs} speech^a is here, and contains no less but that he was sent by his master to make complaints of the many insolencies and affronts received from the Hollanders; he was resolved to right himself by a war, in which he had already address'd the Crown of France for his assistance, and had succeeded in his desires: and therefore now desired the same assistance (or at least a neutrality) from the Crown of Spain. His speech ended in desiring the Queen's help in the designed addresse of the D. of Y[ork] to the Princesse of Inspruck. To this latter point it was answered, that that matter was not to be proposed any where but at Vienna, and whatever assistance she could give at that court should not be wanting in an affair that she thought likely to make two people very happy; but to the first point, time was taken to deliberate, and that Spanish hours are pretty long is certain; however Mr. Godolphin has appointed the first of March to return home with all such articles as can be obtained from thence, in order to the present conjunction of affairs. And now I am so deep in state matters, I ought not omitt telling you, that the Duke

^a Sidney Godolphin.

of Savoy, having lately raised twelve thousand men upon a very cold dispute betwixt him and the State of Genoa concerning Oneglea, it is rather thought they shall be employed against Geneva: all good catholick sovereigns having resolved that this summer shall be fatal to commonwealths and protestants. I did not think it impertinent to tell you this, because of the young gentleman ^a whom I would not have so soon in a siege, as possibly such an accident may bring him into: what credit you will add to it, or what care you will take in it, is left to your own discretion. I could write you pretty certain intelligence from a place very contrary to Geneva, but I have not so much pleasure in hearing it myself that I can take any in distributing it to my friends.

To trouble you at last with my own matters, it is no small comfort to me that, having done a very ugly action I can be so sensible of it that the result of such thoughts as come from a very guilty melancholy can be thought too rigourous by such as have weigh'd all the circumstances of my misdemeanor with as great impartiality as concern and kindness; I resolve to stick so close to a perfect obedience to so excellent friends, that I will make no resolutions so unalterable but that they shall easily yield to any dictates of y^{rs} and S^r W. Coventry. However, to speak frankly, I think I did not lay down in my letter to him an ill method of life to myself, who do hate ignominy, and want too much to return suddenly to a place where I am sure to meet with them both, and can upon very mature, sober, deliberate, and (which is yet more) very necessary thoughts bring myself to a retreat which shall not be very unpleasant, and whence I may reap the advantage of a little study, which is the only thing left in the power of a man that either will live well in the world, or at least quietly in a corner of it. If I am undone for ever, there is no remedy; or if the remedies are to be slow, to consist in fawning, creeping, and serving on in offices troublesome and servile enough in themselves, however gilded by

^a Lord Halifax's eldest son Henry.

the fancies of men, I had rather be in a retirement where my hours are all my own, and of which, if I give no other account, it is something that neither myself nor my friends shall be ashamed of them. I say this only in favour of what I writ to Sr W. [Coventry], and what you seem to take notice of in yours. As for going to sea, I have of late played too much of a knight errant to fail in so principal a part as that which I think so necessary to the present state of my affairs that I have always intended it, whether his R. H. went or no, and therefore do most willingly accept of Mr. Digby's offer to me; for which if you return my thanks, and engage him early to secure me a good cabin, you will much oblige me; from his ship I can easily go to the Duke if he so please,^a and when I have consulted with Tho. Thynne (who I presume will be there) by yr order, what address I ought to make to the D. before I go to him. By this you will find I will not come into England, but go directly to the fleet the best way that will agree with my exchequer, when I hear the time appointed for putting to sea. I should be glad in the mean time to be informed what other volunteers go with Mr. Digby, because I intend my sobriety at sea shall be as eminent as ever my debauches were.

Though my paper is at an end, you must suffer so much of another sheet as to let you know I have received a letter from Madrid, from Sidney Godolphin, in which he condoles with me for my second misfortune about the book, of which my L^d Sunderland has been informed from his mother, with this additionall circumstance, that my Lady North complained of it to the D.; surely if that were true you would not have forgot to let me know it. I should be glad you would inform me concerning that point, which is at Madrid thought so very barbarous that her friends there do condemn her rigour as much as my folly. It were unmercifull to

^a On the 14th August, 1672, Savile wrote to Pepys from on board the "Prince" in Burlington Bay by desire of the Duke of York about the present of a shallop to the French Count D'Estree, and Pepys' entry into parliament. (Pepys' Memoirs, v. 33.)

trouble you at present with any more, this being already what is more suitable to my leisure than yours, and as for compliments what can I say but *Quid tibi retribuam Domine*. H. S.

I open my letter again to let you know y^t having lost the opportunity of the express, this goes by an English gentleman of quality, unknown to myself, but an acquaintance of my cousin Thynne's, so that it will doubtless come safe to y^r hands, and, having time now to write to S^r William, I desire you will let him have the inclosed.

XXXII.

SAME to SAME.*

Whitehall, July y^e 8th, '75.

You may be very sure that my silence could not be occasioned but by my absence; and I do assure you that where I have been I could find no post that went either to Rufford or Thornhill. The day before yesterday I returned with his Ma^{ty} from the most unpleasant voyage that I have ever yet made, though the town here made our danger much greater than it really was. Yesterday the King went to Windsor; this night the Queen, Duke, and Duchess follow him; and to morrow at humble distance I go too, and if I make any small journeys from hither you shall hear of me. Mr. Felton has at last got my Lady Betty, and has her at lodgings in the Mall. Her parents are very disconsolate in the point, and my L^d Suffolk swears all manner of oaths never to be reconciled. My L^d Mulgrave yet keeps his chamber of his wounds; and Mrs. Kirke persists to protest that she does not know whether he be man or woman. She was turned out of St. James's, and has taken a very private sanctuary the very next wall to me in Whitehall. Jack Fenwick goes to-morrow, by the King's allowance, to comand that regiment in Holland which my Irish Lord Clane had.

* There is another break in the correspondence of nearly two years and a half.

My L^d of Essex's goods and servants are already landed, and it is every day expected when the news of his own landing will come. My Lord of Bristol is return'd from the Bath in such wonderfull health that all the world are going thither; my L^d Treasurer on Tuesday next, my L^d Newport on Monday, Sir John Duncomb already. There is no formal stopping of the Exchequer, but all the officers are gone out of town, so that there is not a farthing to be had, which is so melancholy a contemplation that I am all day long wishing you wou'd by your credit where you are find out some heiresse or widdow, old, ugly, and rich, to set me more at ease than I expect to be from any other accident. That the Suedes are infinitely more beaten than the Gazette confesses is very certain. My L^d of Winchester is often at court, and little notice taken of it, either to his advantage or to the contrary. I hope shortly your business will be quite finish'd, and you will take the occasion of your lady's great belly to return to her and your friends here; amongst whom none will be more really glad to see you then

H. S.

XXXIII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, July y^e 17, 1675.

I received yesterday a letter from you which is the occasion of this, since you hold it a credit to receive a letter from a courtier, for it can bring you no manner of news of no kind neither from hence nor Windsor, though it be not now above five hours since I left the noble castle. I suppose you have heard that my Lady Portsmouth's son is made Duke of Richmond and Lenox.

I thank you for your congratulation about the storm, where the rocks were much more dangerous than in the Privy Garden, for there was no danger of splitting upon them. I wonder to hear Jenkinson should be grown such a reprobate; I thought him the reasonablest of all my small territory; at least I dare say he will hardly sue

us but when he is pretty certain of his cause; I must needs put you in mind of bringing up any writings you find that relate to Barraby.

Not one word of the two armies abroad but that both avoid fighting very dexterously. The Cardinal de Retz has surrendered his cap into the hands of the Pope in order to retire into a monastery, but it is said ye Pope will not allow of his demission as being irregular and unpracticable. Towards the latter end of the next week we shall be expecting you, and every Wednesday you may shew your parts at Hampton Court, where the last councill day all foreign points and laces were forbid to be worn after his Ma^{ty's} next return to town. If you deferr your journey I shall endeavour to furnish you with more intelligence than the present quiet of court and town admit of.

I am most entirely your, &c.

XXXIV.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Sept. 16, N.S. 1676.

My Lord Clarendon, who is your most humble servant, and myself, did arrive here on Sunday night. The next morning your son and Monsieur du Moulin came to my lodgings, and in the afternoon they both went with my L^d Lansdowne seven leagues off to see the Vendange, and do not return till Saturday, so that I am to make their excuse till they return, and then they will answer your letters themselves. In very good earnest, my nephew is more altered in his person than I expected, his breadth being so changed into length that he is much taller as well as much slenderer then without seeing him I could have believed. As for his inward man, I intend to examine him very strictly when he comes back, and do intend no more to flatter you then I hope others do me in speaking well of him here, but do promise you faithfully to tell you what I think of him. Mr. Pierrepoint is gone as far as Blois with some company to the Vendange, so that I have not yet given him your lady's

letter, but I am told he will be here again next week. My Lord Cornbury goes into Monsieur Foubert's academy to-morrow morning. My Lord Winchelsea has sent hither to have lodgings taken for himself and family for all the winter, but I hear he is yet at Montpellier. My lord ambassad^r Berkeley intends to go hence as soon as he hears Mr. Montague^a is landed. My Lord George Douglass came yesterday hither from Phillipsburg; he speaks publicly like a sanguine Frenchman that it will not be taken; but to his private friends he is of another opinion. My Lord Lincoln lives here, but sees no English; rails at England, and admires France. I have not yet seen my Lord Mansfield, but I will to-morrow, and, as I find any thing worth troubling you with, you shall hear of your most, &c.

My service to my Lady and my niece.^b

XXXV.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Sept. 30th, N.S. '76.

The letter you writ me came to my hands just as I was shutting my packet the last post day, so that I had not time to thank you for it then, and the good opinion you have of my pastime here, far above my deserts; not but that I love this place so well that it grieves my heart to think of leaving it, and my Lord Clarendon and I talk of nothing oftener than of debauching you hither in the spring. You know best how you can resist such an attack, but assure yourself it will be made with all the vigour we can. Our return depends upon that of Coll. Villiers from Angers. Mr. Pierrepont has promised us his company into England, and he and I are contriving so to order the matter that my master and his father may be at London before us to save us taking post when we think ourselves at our journey's end. I have been to wait on my Lord Shrewsbury

^a Ralph Montagu, who remained till his return to betray the Earl of Danby in 1678.

^b The Earl of Halifax's second wife was Gertrude, daughter of William Pierrepont of Thoresby, son of Rob. first Earl of Kingston, and by her he had an only child Elizabeth, who married Philip, eldest son of Philip 2nd Earl of Chesterfield. (Banks, iii. 334.)

and his little brother, who came here on Saturday last, and are very well. On Sunday I carry'd your son to see the opera, and sat by him on purpose to observe if he have a musical soul, which I do assure you he has; and though he is so modest (his only fault) I dare not venture to ask him to sing aloud, I have heard him humm very harmoniously. The great concord I observe between him and his governor, which he has privately told me is very real, is a good sign of both their discretions, and particularly taken notice of as so by every body here. I have not yet done with the young gentleman, for I promise you a true and impartial account of him when I see you.

If y^a can possibly send time enough to Rufford that a buck may be sent to Mr. Robert Atkinson at Newark for the election of their new mayor on Michaelmas day, you will oblige me extreamly, and I think he does very well deserve it, and must have a very great mind to it that could write hither to me for it. My L^d Mansfield is so pittifull a figure that unless he mend it is impossible his great pretensions should succeed. He is no taller than your son William, who being so much younger you know is not held a very proper man. You will have the true character of this young lord by his uncle, who, I suppose, will tell it very impartially to y^r lady, to whom and my two nieces I present my most humble service. I am this week to see a fine bed, and if Mr. Pierrepont and I approve of it we will bring it with us, and I will draw a bill upon you for the payment. S^r Ellis Leighton went post home on Sunday, so that I suppose he will bring you all the politicks of this place, and it were presumption of any body else to venture at them; so that I do conclude, most boldly averring that Paris is the wholesomest and noblest place under the sun.

XXXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Sedgebroke, April 11, '77.

I am just now arrived here, and am mett by some of my New-arkers, who tell me of the cruellest accident that could possibly

befall my present pretensions, viz., that vote of parliament about expences at elections, which has put Newark in such a rage that the common people say it was I that procured the vote, and that an uncle of mine did it for my sake;^a so that they filled a frock with straw and carry'd it about the town and set it up in the market place, and called it the ten pounds burgess, and had burnt it but for the mayor, who came in his pontificalibus to prevent any further riot. You must needs think, if I do recover this unlucky accident, it must cost me both pains and money, and if it were any uncle of mine who proposed this vote, next under God and my cousin Thynne, I may very well owe a disappointment to him, which would be very shamefull to me; in a word, what may not I expect that is unlucky? I hope to pacify this rabble with the help of some friends, and having time till to-morrow sevensnight, which is the day of election; sooner it cannot be, because of the fair at Gainsborough and the market day. In the mean time it were worth giving a year of life that this insupportable week were past; but what must not younger brothers do in some cases! *Gaudeant bene nati*. My service to my Lady, Sr W^m, and both my neices. I humbly kiss y^r hands.

H. S.

^a Although Newark was the last borough enfranchised by a royal charter, granted so late as 4th April, 1667, the electors fell at once into the "good old ways" of other and more ancient towns. The Commons Journals show that the committee appointed on 12 Nov. 1675, on the exorbitant drinking and expenses at elections, were directed to prepare a bill: they were on 20 Nov. ordered to report, and on 15 Feb. 1676-7 a bill was introduced and read a second time to regulate these expenses; and on the 19th, on its being ordered to be committed, a clause was presented to prevent bribery and excessive treating at elections. No further notice appears on the Journals of a bill, but the resolution against corrupt practices was passed, which gave such offence to the worthy electors of Newark. Treating had become a very common practice at elections. Samuel Jeake, in mentioning the election in 1661 of Sir John Robinson, Lieutenant of the Tower of London, for Rye in Oct. 1661, says: "Besides his expenses of well nigh 100*l*. he did greatly hazard it, and if he had feasted much longer would have done so more than he did." Mr. Robert Wharton, writing to Sir Gilbert Ireland on 12 Nov. 1670, about the Liverpool vacancy, says: "If you please to treat the towne, or any other way that may advance my election, shall very thankfully repay you." (Sussex Arch. Coll., ix.

XXXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Newarke, April 16, '77.

Sir Rob. [Markham]^a and I came hither on Thursday morning last; since which time I have been so continually drunk that I could never have time either to write to London or ride to Rufford. S^r Richard Rothwell had been at so great an expense before we came, that we found it impossible to hope for a voice in this town if we stuck to the new order of the House of Commons, and not to the old custom of England; nay we were fain to double our reckonings to them. We were not the contrivers of that damn'd vote, as was particularly laid to my charge; but I hope I have pretty well convinced them of the contrary, but at so dear a rate that I doubt, whether I succeed or not, I have quite broken my back, and shall do my heart if I return unsuccessfull to London, after pains and trouble taken that I would not undergoe again to be an emperor instead of a burgess. But I find whatever is undertaken out of the pride of a man's heart brings great anxiety's at long run; and, though I should succeed, which is far from a certainty, I have reason to wish I had never seen nor heard of this town; but our measures now at court are so taken that it is essentiall to a man's succeeding there to be of the parl^{mt}, which if I am destin'd not to be, I must be

59, 60.) And George Spencer, the agent of Henry Sidney, in informing him of his election for Bramber under date of 1st Sept. 1679, tells his master:—"Promises on the one hand, and Mr. Goring's frequent treats and drinkings on the other, made us spend much more than we should, to keep our party firm." The charge of Sir John Fagg "was 80*l*., which I have engaged to pay this week. 'Twas more than we thought it could have been, but it is not to be imagined what those fellows, their wives and children, will devour in a day and a night, and what extraordinary reckonings the taverns and alehouses make, who being burghers are not used to be disputed with on that point. We have spent you almost 200*l*. more, and not been bad husbands either." (Blencowe's Diary, &c., of Henry Earl of Romney, i. 116.)

^a Sir Robert Markham stood on the same interest with H. Savile, and Penistoun Whalley stood with Sir Richard Rothwell. The numbers polled do not appear on the records of the corporation.

content with my poverty without any remedy but patience, and every man allowing that no man living ever had so many ugly accidents to prevent what he aimed at. Because of the mart at Gainsborough, the day of election could not be till Thursday, which is the day I wish for more than a lover ever did for a wedding night to be at an end of more noise and tumult than ever poor mortal was troubled with; I have been all this day sick to agonies with four day's swallowing more good ale and ill sack than one would have thought a country town could have held; and this worthy employment must be begun again to-morrow though I burst for it; therefore pray for me and pity me, for I would gladly change my next three days with any slave at Algiers.

XXXVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Barraby, April 21, '77.

I need say no more to you but that I am y^e first burgess of Newarke, and S^r Rich^d. Rothwell the second,^a by what steps I

^a Mr. Savile and Sir Paul Neale had been returned in 1673 under the new charter, but, as the parliament was sitting and the writ had not been issued by the House of Commons, they were not allowed to take their seats. On 31st Jan. 1674 therefore they petitioned the Commons claiming their seats as being duly elected, and the petition was referred to the committee of privileges: on which nothing was done till 10th May, 1675, when other parties petitioned the House complaining of undue means and practices resorted to for obtaining the charter for sending two members. This petition was also referred to the Committee without effect: the matter still lingered: and at length Sir W. Coventry and Mr. Guy, Secretary of the Treasury, were tellers, on 26 Feb. 1677 in a majority of 147 to 98 Noes (for whom Sacheverell and Andrew Marvell were tellers) determining to hear the petitioners at the bar: they were heard on 21st March, when a resolution that Mr. Savile and Sir Paul Neale were duly elected was negatived by a majority of one (102-103). Ultimately a writ was issued to the corporation on 7th April. That the exertions of Henry Savile in procuring the adjustment of the difficulties about the charter might be suitably acknowledged, the corporation passed an address, which, with all its defective latinity, I am enabled to give through the kindness of P. F. A. Burnaby, Esq., clerk of the peace, who also informs me that the corporation books contain no record of the election of 1673 or of that of 1677.

will tell you on Thursday next; but I have been most handsomly obliged by Sr Robt. Markham in very serious earnest, and my burgesship, as I told you before, suits better with my pride than with my purse; but, if I were to have lost this place at which I now am, it must have been sacrificed for the honour of y^r family, when I had once appear'd; and I can only say as Francis y^e 1st, when he was taken prisoner, *Tout est perdue hors l'honneur*, for the same will stun y^a as much as it will trouble me; but I repent it not, though the payment will be heavy.

XXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 8, '77.

The news book of Thursday last having most sufficiently informed you of the certainty of the parliament sitting, I thought it needless to write to you upon any other subject till I could certainly conclude you arrived in the land of promise; in the mean time I find you did not get there so soon as you intended, and that, the heavens being on my side, you were forced to call at my famous borough of Newarke

M. Æ. HENRICI SAVILIJ, ARMIGERI, Hoc D. D. D. Sen. Nevarcæ. Nos Prætor et Senatores Municipij Nevarcæ super Trentam in Agro Nottingamiensi insigniora Henrici Savilij Armig' merita atq' beneficentias inestimabiles illo in nos collatas, penitus penitusq' sentientes, quippe nihilo minus propriarum animi dotium prosapiaeq' nobilitatis quam qua eluit apud Principem suum, gratiæ ergo haud indigno quem ambient omnes et in delicijs habeant quorum aures illius beaverit nomen, qui indulto sibi soli favore ac proclivi ad evehendam hujus Burgi Rempubicam ardore præsentî nostro postprius abdicatum, diplomate Clementissimum Regem Carolum secundum, supremum Dominum nostrum, exorato, multis in locis non abs re hujusce corporis mutato, ministris aulicis ne quidem minimo à nobis honorario vel eo nomine præmio pro more et ex debito auctis quibus scilicet à Regiâ Majestate factum est satis) nos ornavit, volentesq' cum tanti Benefactoris et beneficij memoria Corinthio ære sit perennior, tum posteris cui Chartam referimus acceptam innotescat, quinetiam ab hoc Burgo de gratiâ illi nepotibusve reponendâ parum laboretur præcavescentes; Hisce præcipimus Instrumentum hoc in tabulas publicas perscribi ibidemq' gratitudinis erga illum nostræ testimonium et suorum erga nos quibus solvendis non sumus officiorum in monumentum ut ponatur conservari. Anno Ære Christianæ Millesimo sesqui centesimo septuagesimo septimo, Annoq' Regni dicti Domini Regis etc. Vicesimo nono.

instead of Filkerton ferry, which I threatned the town should have been your passage had I lost my election. You must needs believe every letter that gives me an account of my expences makes my heart bleed as much as my purse; but the bill of 100*l*. when it comes shall be paid, and I hope God will enable me to do all things as justly as becomes me. In the mean time I am glad you saw Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Morris, who I hope, when they take the air to pay their duty's to you at Rufford, will be welcome as well as the rest of the aldermen of the towne. I could be glad also that you would, according to y^r promise to me, use Frank Chesham for your cooper, if a man of that profession be of use to you, and let him have a good bargain in a little wood for his trade; as also Andrew Keppis for your pewterer; in a word, all Newarke men who voted for me being employ'd by you in their several vocations may turn some day to account to y^rself, besides being a present obligation to me. I suppose some of my Lady Elizabeth Vane's friends will take care to send y^r lady word that she was brought to bed of a boy yesterday morning, after having been the night before very well in Hyde Park. My L^d Windsor is gone into Worcestershire; his son is hourly expected from Paris. His neice, Mrs. Colombine, is marry'd to one Mr. Marberry,^a who has 1,200*l*. per ann. in Cheshire; but the method she took in it was something extraordinary; for she suffer'd herself to be lugg'd out of her coach at ten of clock at night, and thrust into a hackney which gallop'd towards Kensington with ten horsemen with swords drawn, she crying murder all the while; but before she came to Knightsbridge she consented to return and marry quietly: so that an hour after her aunt had been with me the next morning, to get all the ports stopt to discover this ravisher, she sent for her to come and see her in bed with her dear husband, and is found to have been consenting from the beginning, and play'd this trick only to avoid further engaging

^a William Marberry, of Great Budworth, Cheshire. She was sole heiress of — Colombine, of Darley, co. Derby. (Ormerod's Cheshire, i. 470.)

her fortune, as she had already done something at the importunity of this aunt, who is now wholly defeated, and ready to hang herself. Mrs. Sedley's marriage with Jack Churchill^a neither is nor I believe ever will be any more talked of, both the knight and the Coll. being willing to break off fairly, which important matter (betwixt you and I) is referred to me by both partys, and for both their goods I think it is best it should cease. There is a young gentleman started up in Kent who will prove himself the lawful son of my Ld Feversham's^b eldest son, who was killed by his brother, though he did never publickly own his marriage during his life. It is confidently said there are several so considerable circumstances and witnesses in his favour that his pretensions can hardly fail, and will be certainly try'd at the beginning of the next term. In the mean time it has frightened her lovers most cruelly. Having writ another letter to you to-day, I will not tire you quite out at the begin'ing

* The Duke of Marlborough's biographers have not mentioned this projected marriage of the colonel at the age of 27 with the celebrated daughter of Sir Charles Sedley, created by James II. on 20 January, 1685-6, Countess of Dorchester for life. She was a relative of the Saviles, her grandmother having been Elizabeth, only child of the learned Sir Henry Savile, Provost of Eton, and the lady on whom Waller wrote the epitaph:

Here lies the learned Savile's heir;
So early wise, and lasting fair,
That none, except her years they told,
Thought her a child or thought her old, &c.

Churchill's marriage with Sarah Jennings is supposed to have taken place early in the next year. In 1674 he had bought an annuity of Lord Halifax out of a present from the Duchess of Cleveland. Count de Grammont gives the report that he was a friend of the duchess when the King disavowed her daughter. The version given by Lord Chesterfield in his letter to his son dated 18th November, 1748, is that "while he was an ensign of the guards, the Duchess of Cleveland, then favourite mistress to King Charles the Second, struck by those very graces, gave him 5,000*l.*, with which he immediately bought an annuity for his life of 500*l.* a-year of my grandfather Halifax, which was the foundation of his subsequent fortune." (Letters, ed. 1845, i. 221.) It appears by his Life (ed. 1847, i. 8) that the annuity was purchased in 1674 for 4,500*l.* The following letters shew that Lord Halifax was fond of granting annuities.

^b Sir George Sondes had been created Earl of Feversham in 1676, with remainder to his non-in-law Lewis de Duras, in default of issue male.

of your repose at Rufford, and therefore will conclude with my most humble service to your lady and both y^r daughters.

Adieu &c.

H. S.

XL.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 8, '77.

I have already writ to you this day by the post, but thought it properer to send the inclosed by the carryer, it being the K. of France his letter to his Majestie by Mon^r de Crequy, which fell by chance into my hands, and I thought you would be willing to see it, and cautious in the shewing it, because it would be easily traced out to me. I do not hear that my Lord of Oxford has yet delivered my Lord Salisbury's petition,^a nor Mr. Secretary Coventry my Lord Shaftesbury's,^b as is intended, but my Lord Middlesex has delivered my Lord Buckingham's, and, though the answer to it is deferr'd, there is some small hope left, though the King took notice upon the reading of it that, though there was great humility used to himself, there was no reparation to the Lords. However, he has promised to give some answer in a day or two, though I believe, for all my Lord Mid. is so sanguine in the case, the parl^{mt} being to sitt so very soon,^c they will hardly be at liberty before. The Dutch amb^{dr} has longer and more audiences than ordinary: God send it be to the purpose, as some believe.

[Enclosure.]

Copy of the KING OF FRANCE his Letter to the KING.

Très haut, très excelent, et très puissant Prince, notre très chère et très aimé

^a These three lords were committed at the meeting of the parliament in February, for arguing that the effect of the late prorogation had been a legal dissolution of the parliament.

^b Lord Halifax personally interested himself for Lord Shaftesbury.

^c It had been adjourned by the King till the 21st of May, but was again adjourned, and did not meet till the 16th of July.

bon frère, cousin, et allié. Depuis que vous vous employez avec tant de zèle pour procurer la paix générale, nous n'avions rien oublié de ce qui a été en nous pour faire que la chrétienté fut redevable de son repos à vos soins et à votre médiation. Vous avez été témoin des facilités que nous y avons apportées en envoyant nos ambassadeurs à Nimegue, aussitôt que par votre entremise cette ville a été choisie pour le lieu de l'assemblée ; c'est en les y faisant demeurer pendant tout le temps que les ministres de nos ennemis ont différé de s'y rendre ; c'est enfin en leur donnant ordre de seconder l'application de vos ambassadeurs depuis l'ouverture des conférences ; mais parceque nous ne pouvons pas trop vous faire connaître combien sincères sont nos intentions pour l'avancement d'un si grand ouvrage, nous voulons bien embrasser tous les moyens qui paroissent les plus capables d'y contribuer, lorsque par la conquête de trois places importantes Dieu répand visiblement sa bénédiction sur nos armées dans une guerre que l'Espagne nous a déclarée, et qu'ils joint à ces grands succès le gain d'une bataille sur l'armée des Etats Généraux, nous ne pouvons mieux répondre à tant de grâces qu'en recherchant les moyens les plus prompts d'arrêter l'effusion du sang Chrétien que nous voyons couler avec tant de peine, ainsi quelque suite que nous puissions nous promettre de ces avantages, nous croyons ne pouvoir donner une plus grande preuve de nos desirs pour la tranquillité générale, qu'en regardant une treuve de quelques années comme la voye la plus seure pour y conduire, nous nous dirions même que nous remettrions de cette heure entre vos mains de vous y engager, et de l'offrir à nos ennemis, si nous pouvions le faire sans le contentement du Roy de Suède, ou si nous avions pu estre instruits de ses sentimens pour la conclure. Mais comme tout commerce nous est fermé depuis longtemps avec ce prince, et que par la liberté qui est refusée à ses ambassadeurs au traité de paix, de luy faire passer leurs depesches et de recevoir ses instructions, nous ignorons qu'elles peuvent être ses pensées. Ce que nous pouvons et de vous informer de nos dispositions sur une treuve, et d'attendre de votre zèle pour la paix que vous pénétriez les siennes, toujours sommes nous bien aise de vous donner des témoignages, que de quelque fortune que nous eussions lieu de nous flatter dans la suite de la guerre, nous sommes touchés principalement du désir d'arrêter les maux qu'elle cause, que nous préférons la gloire de contribuer à la paix de l'Europe à celle que nous pourrions attendre de la puissance de nos armes, et que c'est au milieu des nouvelles prospérités dont elles sont accompagnées que nous apportons plus de facilité à la quitter. Nous trouvons plus de joye à vous déclarer nos sentimens sur ce sujet que nous savons que vous les approuvez davantage, et que vous les regardés sans doute comme plus favorable pour le succès de notre négociation, puisqu'une treuve empêcheroit que les événemens contraires ou favorables qui peuvent arriver entre les parties

durant la campagne, n'apportassent quelque obstacle à la négociation qui commence à se lier par vos ambassadeurs à Nimegue, et la présente n'étant à autre fin, nous prions Dieu qu'il vous ait, très haut, très excellent, et très puissant Prince, notre trèscher, et très aimé bon frère, cousin, et allié, en sa sainte et digne garde. Escrit à Terrouane, le 23 d'Avril, 1677. Votre bon frère, cousin, et allié,

LOUIS.

This was writ upon our English Good Friday.

XLI.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 10, '77.

I writt to you on Tuesday, both by the poste and the carryer, who I understood by you was to go hence on Wednesdays, but the servant you left to look to your house told me Monday was his day, so that what I expected should be with you this week will not reach you till the latter end of the next, and by that time we shall hope to hear that you have settled your family in the country, and are yourself upon your return to Parliament; in the mean time we have no manner of news here more than what the Gazette will tell you of the great advantage Mons^r D'Estrées has had over the Dutch in the West Indies, which is not there represented so much to his honour as he seems to deserve from great circumstances of his personal courage. I was yesterday at the Tower to see his grace and my L^d Salisbury, who present their humble service to you, which is all I can do at present till something happen worth informing you. Adieu.

Pray remember to give Pen. Whaley^a advice not to play the fool, for what he intends will prove so.

^a Penniston Whalley was the defeated candidate at the election, and on the 31st January, 1677-8, presented a petition against Henry Savile's return. The petition was referred to a Committee of Privileges to report whether it was preferred within time or not, and on the 12th February Sir Thomas Meeres reported that it did not come in due time, and it therefore fell to the ground.

XLII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 12, '77.

I am resolved to write to you every post though I have never so little to say, nor can I have ever less than this week has furnish'd of any kind of news either foreign or domestick, there having nothing happened but that on Monday last a warrant was sign'd to make Mr. Kent and Mr. Duncomb, of Lombard Street, treasurers of the Customs, in the place of Mr. Montenay, whose service did no longer please his maj^{ty}, and the tenure of his office being *durante bene placito*. My L^d Windsor is return'd from Hewel to Flanchford, and will be here on Monday to expect his son, who according to his calculation will by that time be come. My aunt Thynne is now in town, and stays a week, being come upon a bare visit to her daughters. S^r Harry, according to his custom, is fallen into a fitt of the gout, which will I suppose keep her here longer than she intended. The example of so eminent a person as yourself does prevail upon others of the nobility, so that L^d Gray of Wark goes down into Northumberland on Wednesday with his family for all summer, and when I asked him why he would go so near the parl^{mt} he told me, surely he was not so necessary there as my Lord Halifax. Our cousin my Lady Stroud's daughter was to have been marry'd on Wednesday last to S^r Edw. Deering's eldest son, but on Monday the poor man broke his arm, being overturned in a coach: so that that matter must be deferr'd till he is well, the marriage not being broke, though the arm be. My cousin Thynne told me this morning that S^r William [Coventry] will be here next Saturday: pray let your friends know something of your mind about your own journey, that we may not be sending letters to you at Rufford, when you are upon the road, for, whatever you may think, it is no small favour for a Londoner to take the pains to write to that happy order of country gentlemen, in which if you can list yourself quietly

you will be a greater object of envy than in any other posture under the sun. I am sure I think so, though I can persuade nobody to believe me any more than I can be mistrusted in the professions of my humble service to your lady, your daughters, and your l^d^{sp}.

XLIII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 17, '77.

I will not make my being in waiting an excuse for not writing to you this post, though my being with his Maj^{ty} at Windsor was a very justifiable one the last, from the forwardness of which noble structure he has resolved to go live there in July till a session of parl^{mt} recall him to town; in the meantime Monday holds for the present meeting, but of its duration I am not able statesman enough to give you any advice in order to your own journey, to which I suppose the greatest inducement would be that S^r W^m [Coventry] will lye at your house here to-morrow night. I am in most dreadful discontent against the servant you have left there in your absence, who, after the first mistake of not sending my letter by the carryer of yesterday seven-night, brought it back to me yesterday and asked whether I would have it go next Monday, which will be within a day a fortnight of the time I gave it him. This has made me resolve not to send any more dispatches till you let me know in what wiser hands to put them, and I am not certain yet whether I will trust him with that which with the disadvantage of an old date will not answer your expectations, though at first I assure myself it would. I am much obliged to you for having retained my cooper, nor shall be much less for my pewterer, who according to the court phrase did me a great deal of secret service,^a to which my open friends were not privy, and therefore I do not wonder they are not

^a This secret service among the "Swiss" portion of the electors has not become less useful during the last 180 years, notwithstanding the eighty-eight acts which have at different times passed the legislature to prevent corrupt practices.

so kind to him as I am. As for Pen. Whaley, if you see him, I should be glad you would a little advise him, but if he will be obstinate I do not much fear him, for I am liable to the Ten Pounds Act alone, which grows more and more ridiculous every day. The heir of Kent and his pretensions are quite vanished, and so are all the pretenders to the lady but our cousin Watson, who stands so fair that it must be some very odd and unlucky accident that can disappoint him. My poor L^d Feversham is return'd from France, but proves so ill treated by the old earl that, except his title, will have but little from him. There is no news from abroad newer or privater than the Gazette, or than my being an humble servant to your lady, my niece, and your noble lordship, whose absence from this sessions is a miracle to all the world.

XLIV.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 24, '77

I have your letter for better directions to write to you in case of necessity, but do not find it likely to make speedy use of them, for, S^r W^m being in town, I shall leave it to his more experienced pen to give you an account of such matters as will best suit with your curiosity. I will only tell you I have had a very short sight of our nephew Other, who, like one of eighteen, is gone in great impatience to his wife. His outward man is well enough, only he is not so tall as I thought he would be; for his intellectuals, I shall give you a better account of them upon further enquiry. I am so delighted with my new seat in parl^{mt} that if Mr. Whaley should in the least disturb me I should scream as if I lost a limb, but betwext the hopes he will either not stirr or not ~~snooze~~ I do yet sleep pretty quietly. I am very ~~gentle~~ of your kindness in taking care of my reputation at my borough; it is yet the most tender subject to touch upon imaginable; the only way I have to requite you is to reimburse

you as soon as may be; and when I know the true particulars of what I am in your debt I will take some speedy course in it; in the mean time I am in more haste to go to some of the men of money than you could be to your polish'd men of business; so that this must conclude with my humble service to your lady and daughter.

XLV.

SAME to SAME.

May 26, '77.

I write to you from the lobby of the Lords, where that house is hearing the cause betwixt [Marmaduke] Darrell and S^r Jeremy Whitecoate, and have sent for Pemerton and Churchill for having intimidated the councill for pleading in that cause. What the end of that matter will be you can guess as well as I.^a

The House of Commons is adjourn'd till two this afternoon, when they are to meet and go to his Maj^{ty} with the address, to desire him to enter into a league, offensive and defensive, with the States Gen^l for the preservation of the Spanish Netherlands, and to prevent the growth and power of the French king, with reasons why they could not comply with his Maj^{ty}s message. The bill for recalling the English forces in France is carry'd this morning up to the Lords, who were also at the same time minded by Mr. Powell of the bill that lyes before them against popery.

If anything more worth your knowledge happen to-day I will either let you know it myself or speak to S^r W^m to word it better for you. There is a French letter for you at my house, w^{ch} I should have sent this post had I writ at home. It looks as if it would keep cold till the next. I am your most humble servant, as also to my lady and y^r daughter.

^a On 9th April the Lords had ordered Sir Jeremy Witcheot to put in his answer, and appointed a day for hearing. Sir Jeremy disobeyed the order, and the 26th of May was named for the hearing: it was finally fixed for Monday 28th May, but on that day parliament was adjourned by the King's command, and did not meet again for business till 28th January, 1677-8. (Lords' Journals, xiii. 122—127.)

XLVI.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, May 28, '77.

I had your letter and advice to write oftener to my friends at Newarke, which I have perform'd so well to-day that I have sent them both the King's speeches and our address, which is the reason I send them not to you, having but one copy; but I hope S^r W^m [Coventry] will take care you shall have them by his means. I have also advertised them of my readiness to pay such bills as they shall draw upon me, nor shall it be long before I also satisfy y^r l^dsp. For news: both houses are adjourned till the 16th of July: the Earl of Dover is departed this life, and S^r Rob. Cary, formerly the Duke's page, is Lord Hunsden; but, being as poor as his predecessour, the King continues y^e pension of 500*l*. a year to him; a walk he had in Sherwood Forest is given to my Lord Deincourt. Poor James Porter is given over by the physcitions, dyeing of a pleurisy. Moll Kirke is marry'd at Paris to S^r Thomas Vernon, as it is reported, so as I believe it. Y^r house have ended y^e dispute betwixt my L^d of Rutland and Mr. How to y^e satisfaction of both party's. I shall trouble you no further at present, but, with y^e usual complements to y^rself and family, remain an humble servant to y^r lordship.

XLVII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 5, '77.

At the same time I received yours of the 2d instant I had one of the same date from Mr. Morris, with my accounts stated (all to the 2 inns) and notice of a bill drawn upon me for 100*l*., which shall be paid as soon as served upon me. I shall take such care in all that matter that Newarke shall not fright me from Rufford, where I intend to meet my good knight that went yesterday home, and we shall accordingly calculate our affairs and keep correspondence to that end. Yesterday our cousin Watson went down to my

Lady Katherine Sondys; his particular and person so well allow'd of that the next news is expected is their marriage. My L^d Rockingham and my lady are also invited down. My L^d Salisbury was released upon parole for a month last Saturday, my L^d of Oxford having solicited and finish'd that affair; but, though the other lords have used the same means for a release, it is not yet done, though my L^d Middlesex is the most earnest man alive for the Duke of Buckingham. Yesterday my young L^d Gerrard of Bromley, about fifteen years old, going with his mother to see new Bedlam, was so crouded by prentices that took the Whitson holidays to see the same shew, that he drew his sword, run one into the body who had first given his l^d a blow in the face. This bred so great a tumult that they were thought his l^ds best friends who with some hazard hurry'd him away to the Counter, whither the King has sent for him out to-day, and has also sent to my Lord Mayor and Mr. Recorder to examine strictly this matter. Last night also, Du Puis, a French cook in the Mall, was stabb'd for some pert answer by one Mr. Floyd, and because my L^d Rochester and my Lord Lumley were supping in the same house, though in both different rooms and company's, the good-nature of the town has reported it all this day that his L^d was the stabber. He desired me therefore to write to you to stop that report from going northward, for he says if it once get as far as York the truth will not be believed under two or three years.

S^r Thomas Vernon has writ for a yacht to bring his lady over; he has also writ to my Lady Vaughan not to blame him before she hears him. I was this day desired from a man I have no acquaintance with, but his name is S^r Edward Bathe, eminent for keeping one of the players, about 26 years old he is, to enquire of you whether you will not take nine years' purchase for four hundred pounds a year for his life. I promised to propose it to you, and, that being y^r usual price, you know best whether you are ready for such a matter. I was also in company lately with Coll. Tempest, who told me that there is a gentleman willing to sell an estate that joyns upon that reversion you bought of my L^d Middlesex, which will be of that great convenience to you as to make both the estates

double when joyn'd; at least this may be worth your enquiring into. My Lord of Bedford is treating in behalf of my Lady Bristol to sell Wimbleton to my L^d Marquis of Winchester: it is thought they are likely to agree, but I have heard nothing of the terms. Here is Mons^r Bentinck,^a chief favourite to the Prince of Orange, come over yesterday to his Maj^{ty}, but his business not publickly known. There is some discourse of a great defeat the French have had by the Dutch in the East Indies, but the particulars not mentioned.

My Lady Portsmouth went last Monday to the Bath, but returns again in three weeks. I think I need make no excuse for breaking off abruptly. I shall only wish the fine green coat Rufford wears may not be too much sully'd and scorch'd by the heat of the sun before I wait upon y^r lady, y^r daughter, and y^r l^{dsp}.

XLVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 9, '77.

The chief business of this letter is to acquaint you that I have with all due punctuality pay'd the bill for one hundred pounds that was drawn upon me by Mr. Atkinson and Mr. Morris, and have sent them word whenever they will draw another for the same sum I am ready to satisfy it, and that according to their computation will put an end to all but the two inns, whose accounts I have not yet, and when I have I must take some time to discharge them: in time I hope to get through this troublesome expensive affair, and then I shall take some delight in my senatorship. The three lords remain yet in the Tower, his Mat^{ty} having given no other answer to their petitions but that he would consider of them. The letters this day from Flanders tell us that the Duke of Lorrain had pass'd a little river call'd the Seille near its entrance into the Moselle; that he had found Mon^r de Crequy drawn up upon a height (as the soldiers are pleased to term a hill, as I suppose), by which means, as he has himself writ to Bruxelles; he has the disadvantage of ground, but says also that he has so much the advantage in number, that he doubts

^a Afterwards Earl of Portland.

not but to give a very good account of this business, especially if Mon^r de Schomberg do not come in any time to the relief of Mon^r de Crequy; he had so far began the battle that both armies discharged their cannon at one another this day sevensnight all day long, so that the next post is likely to bring us the result of this great action, of which every body is very impatient.

Mon^r Canaples went this morning into France; it passes for current here that the Spanish Ambassadour has told his Ma^{ty} that if he will not join with the Confederates against the power of France his master will be forced to declare war against England. I am not statesman enough either to averr the truth of this or to guess at the consequences. The King's patent to the goldsmiths for interest, six per cent for their money, is in every body's hand; I will send you one by the carryer, as also a sermon preach'd at Whitehall by Dr. Sudbery, which he left at my house to be sent to you, but of these two picces I doubt that will not be the first you will read.

I am an humble servant to your lady and your daughters both.

XLIX.

SAME to SAME.

Sheene, June 14, '77.

I find by your letter your impatience is so great to hear a little foreign news that, though I am in the country in a philosophical retreat with my Lord Treasurer,^a I resolve to tell you all I know, which is, that the last night's letters tell us that, the Duke of

^a Henry Savile experienced on more occasions than one the friendship of Danby. In 1695, Danby, then Duke of Leeds, told with great complacency a story against himself. "When I was Treasurer in King Charles's time the excise was to be farmed; there were several bidders. Harry Savile, for whom I had a great value, informed me that they had asked for his interest with me, and begged me to tell them that he had done his best for them. 'What,' I said, 'tell them all so, when only one can have the farm!' 'No matter,' said Harry, 'tell them all so; and the one who gets the farm will think that he owes it to me.' The gentlemen came—I said to every one of them separately, 'Sir, you are much obliged to Mr. Savile; Sir, Mr. Savile has been much your friend.' In the end Harry Savile got a handsome present; and I wished him good luck with it." (Lord Macaulay, iv. 558).

Lorrain having press'd the French to fight, they avoided it so very much that rather than come to blows they had pass'd the river Seille, and are gone on the German side. Mon^r de Lorrain followed them over with his army, and is still endeavouring to make them come to a battle, which I suppose they cannot long avoid; the next post will inform us more. From hence you can expect no news but that I take myself for a great man, and you know Bates is no small one at Richmond. I kiss the hands of yourself and family.

L.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 19, '77.

I do not believe you are at all less impatient in the country than we are in town to hear what is done in Alsatia; but we must have all patience alike, for there is nothing come of more moment than you may learn in the Gazette. That little action was no great advantage to either side, and we must hear something much more considerable before we can be satisfy'd here. What comes in this night from Flanders or to-morrow from France I will let you know by Thursday's post. There is great discourse of a considerable defeat the Swedes have now very lately received, by land as well as by sea, which is at large in the news book. Your friends in the Tower are, for ought I hear, like to remain there, their petitions having been answer'd in the negative. I know nothing more worth troubling you with at present, and so conclude with my humble service to y^r lady and daughter.

LI.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 24, '77.

I have yours of the 20th, and, for all your impatience to hear of the Duke of Lorrain, you must expect a while, as we think here, before there be a battle, not that he lyes under any new disadvantage, but on the contrary has so placed himself that all his provisions

and recruits come easily and safely to him; but he is playing the great generall, to let fighting alone if his business will advance as well without it, so that we set our hearts at rest here for any present expectation; and if anything extraordinary come of a sudden to our knowledge I promise it shall be convey'd to yours as fast as the post can carry it. On Thursday night late, too late to deliver it, a warrant was sign'd for leave for the Duke of Buckingham to go yesterday to Cliveden^a to view his building, and return this night to the Tower; but betwixt my Lord Northampton and S^r Jo. Robinson^b it was so order'd that he stir'd not out of the Tower till six of clock last night, then lay at his house in the city, and is gone this morning about viewing Cliveden, and returns this night according to the former orders, accompanied in this expedition by S^r Jo. Robinson; it is fifty-two miles forward and backward. Yesterday Mr. Mich. Mallet did move for a *habeas corpus* for my Lord Shaftesbury at the King's Bench bar, which was granted, and his l^{d^s} is to make his appearance on Tuesday next at that bar to have his cause decided, which we think will not be much to his advantage. Yesterday my Lady Shrewsbury own'd her match with Mr. Bridges,^c so much to the dissatisfaction of her parents that she left Cardigan House, and is now at my Lady Elizabeth Thimisbury. My L^d Castlemaine is arrived here from Holland about some matters relating to his own private fortune. My L^d Culpepper is also returned from Paris with Mrs. Willis, whom he carry'd thither to buy whatsoever pleased her there and this nation could not afford. My cousin Savile of Methley's other niece by S^r William Cholmondeley is

^a Near Maidenhead.

Gallant and gay in Cliveden's proud aloof,
The bower of wanton Shrewsbury and love.

Pope's Use of Riches.

^b Lieutenant of the Tower, and M.P. for Rye.

^c George Rodney Bridges, second son of Sir Thomas Bridges of Keynsham, Somerset: she died 20 April, 1702, and was buried at St. Giles-in-the-Fields. Mr. Bridges survived her and proved her will. Ex inf. T. W. King, Esq., York Herald. See also note ^a p. 22.

marry'd last week to Sr Edward Deering's son. Captⁿ Withe, whom I suppose you may know, aged 47, with a wife of the same age, has press'd me to write to you to know whether you will take fifteen hundred pounds for 200^l. per ann. for their lives, one hundred dyeing with each, w^{ch} is the considerable part of the bargain: pray send me your resolution in your next. The next week, or at farthest the week after, my L^d Duke of Lauderdale sets forth by sea to Scotland. My L^d of Ormond has not named his day for Ireland, but it will certainly be some time next month. My Lady Clarendon is with child, and goes on very prosperously in that condition; if you will send me any complement to my l^d upon that occasion I shall most faithfully deliver it. As for Rufford, I will certainly see it before you return hither; but my main plot is to meet Sr W^m there, of whose design in that matter I yet hear nothing. My humble service to my lady and my niece, and so I rest, &c.

LII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 30th, '77.

My Lord Shaftesbury was brought to Westminster on Wednesday morning, but upon the request of the king's councill, who pretended not to be ready, was carry'd back and brought thither again yesterday, Mr. Williams of the House of Commons and Mr. Wallop being his councill, but neither their pleading nor his own speaking could prevail with his judges, who thought themselves unable to redress him, his imprisonment being by order of a court superiour to theirs,^a so that he is now in the Tower till his Maj^{ty} shall be pleased to release him, or till the House of Lords meet next. Yesterday morning dyed Sr Jeremy Whichcoat, well known at the Lords bar, and so did Captⁿ Mausine, the old great horseman, whose place is given to the Duke of Newcastle's old servant Mr. Eagle; and to shew the day yet more mortall dyed also Sr John King, the Duke's sollicitour, which place his R. II. has bestowed upon my Lord

^a State Trials, vi. 1270, and Cooke's Life of Shaftesbury, ii. 165.

Chancellour's son. I am told that our great cousin my Lord Howard is this day married to my Lady Mary Mordaunt,^a or if not to-day, it is so certain and so near that there is no further doubt of it. My Lord Howard of Escrick owns his marriage with Mrs. Joane Drake. There is no certain news from abroad, neither the French nor Flanders posts being yet come; but there is a great discourse upon the Exchange this day, as if the Duke of Lorrain had had some very considerable advantage over the French: a day or two will tell us the truth, and then I will tell it you. In the mean time I am most sincerely what I ought to be both ceremoniously and really to yourself, your lady, and my niece.

LIII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, July 3, '77.

I have received your letter and y^r complement, which, how imaginary soever you may imagine, I hope to live to see the day to put you to the tryal whether you will remember your friends in the country or no; for, as I grow daily more fatt and morose, I long more and more to be at rest, and were I but tolerably provided for in the country, no temptation under the sun but a sitting parliament (which I confess I honour extremely) should bring me to town: *Ereat aulâ qui vult esse pius*, and I think *felix* may very well be added. For news, there is no more yet from Alsatia. His Maj^{ty} goes to-morrow morning to Sheerness, but sups first this night at my Lord Treasurer's. The Duke of Newcastle went down by St. Alban's road yesterday; Duke Lauderdale by that of Stamford, towards Scotland, so that if you will wait upon him at Newark or Tuxford, you can hardly hope for so good an opportunity. Browne, who was committed when you were in town, was this day try'd at the King's Bench, where he was fined a thousand marks, imprisonment till the money be paid, bound to his good behaviour for seven years, with a prohibition to exercise his profession of an attorney during the same

^a Henry Howard, who succeeded his father as Duke of Norfolk in 1684. He was divorced in 1700, and Lady Mary remarried Sir John Germain.

time.^a I have read to Cap^{tn} Withe that part of your letter which concerns him; he swears to me he can have for fourteen hundred what he offer'd fifteen to you for, but is so unwilling to deal with any body else that he has prevail'd with me to write once more to you and offer you sixteen hundred as the deepest he can go, and to you alone of all men living; therefore pray let me have one line more of you about this business. I come from taking my leave of Mr. Pierrepont, who goes to Aulson on Thursday, according to his unquestionable punctuality. I tell him I will call upon him as I go to you, and carry my cousin Jervais along with me. I am sorry to hear S^r W. C. wavers in his resolution of seeing you; for myself, before the end of this month I shall be with you, unless I have such an excuse as I would not willingly have, for I shall count any thing ill that hinders me from waiting upon yourself, lady, and daughter.

LIV.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, July 26, '77.

I have now resolved, unless some very unexpected accident intervene, to leave this town on Monday morning and lye the third night at Nottingham, which will be the eve of the assises, wheré, when I have perform'd what some of my Newarkers have desired of me, I will be

^a The information preferred against Joseph Browne, an attorney, was for publishing several scandalous libels: he was found guilty of one only, called "The Long Parliament Dissolved;" in Trinity term, 1677, exception was taken that the information did not set forth the libel *in hæc verba*, but only recited part of it; but it "was ruled to be well enough either in indictment or information to avoid prolixity." (Browne's case, Freeman's Reports, i. 465.) This was one of the cases in which the House of Commons took exceptions to the conduct of Scroggs and the other judges of the King's Bench. On 23rd December, 1680, (Com. Journ. ix. 689), the committee reported that he was ordered to be struck off the rolls without any offence alleged in his vocation; that the publishing this libel consisted only in subscribing a packet with this inclosed to the East Indies; that, not being able to pay the fine, living only upon his practice, he lay in prison for three years till the King pardoned him, and by his warrant of 15 Dec., 1679, recommended him to be restored to his place again as an attorney, but that he had not obtained such restoration. And the house resolved that Joseph Browne ought to be restored to all the offices and places which were taken from him by occasion of the judgment given against him.

with you with all speed, so that in the mean time I will let you rest, only acquainting you that a printed account from Spain of the last battle in Catalonia lays the victory so much of their side, that for the loss of only one single hundred they pretend to have slain three thousand of French, and, though possibly this may sound a little too Spanish, they probably had an advantage; because we hear from France that their army is retired from Catalonia into Roussillon, which is no great sign of being victorious. Letters from northern parts arrived this day say the armies of Sweden and Denmark were actually engaged, the victory inclining to the latter.

His Grace of Bucks is out for a month, my L^d Salisbury at liberty for ever, and so it is supposed his grace will shortly be by petitioning as fully as his L^d^{sp} did, but this I suppose some friend or other inform'd you the last post; I could not myself, being gone that day with my L^d Treasurer to see Wimbleton, his new purchase, for which he has given eleven thousand pounds, and did not return till it was too late to write. I hope to be with you according to my expectations, and so I rest your L^d^{sp}s etc.^a

My service most humble to the ladies.

LV.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Aug. 2nd N. S. '78.

This has no further business than just to tell you of our arrival

* At the close of the year 1677, Algernon Sidney obtained, through the influence of Henry Savile, pardon and permission to return home from Gascony on the plea that he was anxious to see his aged father before his death, which took place on the 2d Nov. in that year. In 1682 Algernon Sidney was again abroad, and again, through the intercession of Henry Savile, obtained the King's leave to return to England for three months. Writing from Nerac (Lot et Garonne), on the $\frac{18}{25}$ December, 1682, Sidney thus thanked Henry Savile, "My obligation unto you I so far acknowledge to be the greatest I have a long time received from any man as not to value the leave you obtained for me to return into my country after so long an absence at a lower rate than the saving of my life."

There is an interval of a year in the correspondence, and then Henry Savile appears in Paris acting under the Lord Ambassador Sunderland, who had replaced Ralph Montagu; and Savile had succeeded Sunderland at that court in March 1678-9, but with the title only of Envoy.

here, that in case you have recollected y^rself of any further commission to give me, I am ready to obey your orders; I was yesterday at St. Germain's, where the news was very fresh of a new advantage the Mareschall de Crequy had had at Strasbourg, but they are here so used to victory that they are modest enough, and do not shew so much transport for their successes as I have seen sometimes elsewhere in their behalf. I did step into the Palais this morning, where I saw a new piece treating of the civil law, and what part of it was of use in France, what coherence and dependance several customs had upon it here; but I doubt it is too voluminous to recommend to you; if I hear it much spoken of I will let you know whether it be worth your purchasing. If any thing else come in my way that I think suitable to y^r inclinations I shall do the like; in the mean time all I can do for you and yours is to wish you from the bottom of my soul most heartily well.

LVI.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Aug. 12, N. S. '78.

I am sorry to see confirm'd by your letter the news we had of the death of Mr. Pierrepont. Pray let your lady have the inclosed, which is to tell her my concern for it. I have sent along with this letter four pair of such gloves as you desired; I chose to send them this way to save myself the trouble of struggling with the custom-house for them; and they are more than enough to serve you the whole winter, unless you be a much worse husband than I use to be, which miracle God knows never happned yet. As for your books I will take great care of them, and provide more as your catalogue shall encrease, upon further instructions what your desires are of that kind, for amongst friends I will spend as much time here as I can, for fear of any relapse of my old disease, this being the properest place for such a misfortune to befall me in if my ill fortune intend it me, though as yet I have not the least reason to suspect it, having never in my whole life had a more perfect flourishing health. As

for state news, peace is so much the desires of this place, that it must be prevented from your side the water if at all, and, though you are not one of those who think that likely, yet to make it seem probable I will tell you it will be by their folly more than their faults who send their orders hither, which must be exactly obey'd when they come: this is very dark, and writt like a statesman, but what would you have from a man who has seen nobody but Mon^r de Pomponne this morning. Feed upon this till I see you, and then you may know more, as your inclinations shall merit of one who must have mine. The King has named Monday sevenight for his voyage to Fontainebleau; other news from thence I know not, but that some of your son's fellow-travellers lately arrived left him well in Italy. Mr. Pierpoint went that way some days before he could hear of his grandfather's death; what alterations that is like to make in his travells or in any thing else you know best. Farewell, dear brother; all good befall you and yours!

LVII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Aug. 27, N. S. '78.

I have yours of the 9th, and am glad your gloves are to your mind; all my business now will be to satisfy you as well in your books. The last you sent for was not to be found exactly according to the title you gave it; but I have sent two, of which doubtless one is the right, and because one of them is forbid, I guess it may be that; for that reason I have sent it post in the pocket of an honest gentleman who promises to leave it carefully at your house, doubting that had I brought it myself I might have been troubled at the douane about it. All the other books you desired are bought, and because I will think my own brother may possibly be a little of my mind in some few things, I will send them by my L^d Dunbarton, who goes hence to-morrow, for I confess when I expect any thing how triviall soever I am in great impatience for it, and therefore unwilling to impute that quality to my weakness, but laying it upon nature I will give you a share of it, and send y^r books by

this first occasion, by which I shall make more room for other commissions you shall care to send me by your next, which will certainly find me here, for if I am at Westminster on the 1st of October, it is as soon as my superiours can expect, and sooner than my own inclination can desire my return; in this matter my health pretends no part in governing, for I hold so perfectly well that I have forgot myself, and I doubt by my bulky appearance every body else will forget I was sick; I have only so convenient a remembrance of it as to avoid all temptations^a to a possibility of the like inconveniences, from which good Lord deliver us! If the young Canterbury philosophers come here during my stay, I shall use them with the respect due to Princes so much nearer in blood to the crown of Rufford than I am; those affairs are so regulated here by the Sallique law, that following that track I shall so behave myself as to give no offence to my betters, though in England, where those things are not so nicely insisted on, I committed a failure in not calling upon them as I came; but it could not consist with the dispatch we were obliged to make. I am sorry I cannot divert you with as much news from hence as you sent me, but when the Court is so far off as Fontainebleau this town is look'd upon as a desert, and here is nobody left but the Duke of Buckingham, who is incognito, and sees nobody of our sex or nation but St Ellis Leighton.^b How long he will stay or conceal himself is as great a secret as why he came: some will have it upon a politick account, but others give him no better errand than the

^a On the 12th August, 1678, Henry Savile wrote also from Paris to his uncle Secretary Coventry, and, after speaking of the good reception he had always found at his house, he adds, "These I hope are the charms that have prevailed with me to remember (that is, to trouble) you oftener than I am apt to do other of my friends whose butterfly-hatch is not so open, and who call for tea, instead of pipes and bottles after dinner; a base unworthy Indian practice, and which I must ever admire your most Christian family for not admitting." (Sir Henry Ellis, Original Letters, 2nd Ser. iv. 58.)

^b He is thus mentioned in "the D. of B's Litany" (Poems on State Affairs, ed. 1703, iii. 93):—

From learning new morals from Bedlam Sir Payton,
And truth and modesty from *Sir Ellis Layton*;

Libera nos Domine.

pursuit of a lady; but the truth we expect from England, where I suppose there are many privy both to his journey and the true occasion of it. At the beginning of the next week we go for some days to Fontainebleau. I, who am but a very ill courtier where I am paid for my attendance, can have but little inclination to thrust myself into this crowd without an especial call, but I cannot answer to myself the dullness of letting slip such an opportunity of seeing how this mighty King passes his time in the country, and therefore am resolved to go; at my return you shall hear farther from me, in the mean time I can send you nothing but the humble service of my L^d Ambass^{dr} and myself, and desire mine may be given to your lady and your daughter.

LVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Fontainebleau, Sept^r 15, N. S. '78.

I have not yet heard that you have received the packet of books I sent you by my L^d Dumbarton, for which I am the more in pain because he seem'd to be in some doubt whether he could carry them or no, and I came hither so soon after he left Paris that I had not time to enquire, but I shall know two or three days hence, when I shall myself be in Paris; but I am in great hopes you have received them. If you have any further commands for me pray send them by this bearer, for upon his return to Paris I shall think of mine to London; in the mean time he can give you the best account of cutts, being himself a painter and skill'd in the matter, and him I employed to look after such things of that sort as might be properest for your mind, but it is no small advantage that you may discourse with him y^{self}, and accordingly we shall be the better able to provide for you at his return. I presume you would be willing enough to know something of this place, but it is a scene so elevated above the comprehension of a man that wears plain linning that till I can inculcate it to you with observations of my own you will not be able to

understand such high matters; in the mean time I do not know how wisely our court has behaved itself, but they are much angrier here that you daily pour over men into Flanders than the parl^t can be that they are not disbanded. We hear here that God Almighty will decide that dispute, and that our men dye so very fast that in a little time the remaining number will not be very formidable to any body. I do not see why I should give you any further trouble at present than my humble service to your lady, both my nieces, and your good lordship. My Lord Sunderland is your most humble servant.

You have not acknowledged the receipt of the two books I sent by Captⁿ Lockhart; it were pity they were lost, being both much esteem'd by all good Protestants.

LIX.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Sept. 21, N. S. '73.

At my return hither on Monday I found your sons, and your letter, and, being somewhat the ancients traveller I have offer'd my experience for a guide to them, but I find they come with such positive orders from you that I should not have dared to stop their voyage to Chastillon without the help of my L^d Ambassador, who, betwixt his character and his relation, thinks himself not only in authority enough to stop them till fresh orders from you, but we do also think you will be convinced of the necessity of giving some new directions when you know that Chastillon has been wrong represented to you, if you expect they should learn any thing there, for, though there be the name of a colledge, the learning of it extends no farther than teaching little children to write and read, and their catechism. Now these young philosophers have brought from Canterbury a stock so infinitely beyond this that they will rather hazard the loss of what they have than increase their knowledge

there; and that you may be sure of the truth of this, I have it both from Mon^r Glaude and Mon^r de Ruvigny, who both assure me that there is no university for Protestants in France but Puy Laurens in Languedoc, and Saumur, of which the latter is without all dispute much the best; as well for what is to be learnt in the colledge, as for dancing, and all such other exercises as will be proper for them in a little time to think of: besides that the ordinary argument against that place is at an end, there being at this time, as I am credibly assured, hardly any English at all there; I cannot hear so much as of one; and whatever you intend to allow them at Chastillon will serve their turn as well at Saumur, where no manner of expence will be expected from such small officers. This my L^d Ambassadors and myself thought necessary for the discharging our duty to our nephews to acquaint you, but if you persist in the former resolution, the young gentleman shall be dispatch'd upon your next orders, and I hope you will excuse us loosing them some few days, since your self will loose them all the months or years you intend they shall spend at Chastillon. I have myself been to pay them my duty, and amongst other cares have sent Carmelion to clean their teeth, which were shamefull, but they have stay'd so long for new cloaths that they have not yet been with my Lord Emb^{dr}, and resolved not to come in their old ones, though his l^d^{sp} sent for them yesterday to dinner, resolving to carry them afterwards to the opera, but these two small vessels are as long rigging as one of his Maj^{ty}s best ships would be. My lord desires me to present his service to you, and make his excuse for not answering your letter this post, having so many other necessary ones to write that he will take liberty with you till the next. And now I have done with the cadets I will give you an account of my correspondence with my chief, which cannot be better done than by sending you his letter, by which you will perceive to the glory of God and the honour of Yorkshire how the civility and good breeding of the sprouts of Thornehill increase, for I dare say that in our ancestours' days the dolphin of the family did never shew such respect to the cadett uncle with the hawk upon his

fist, of which generous proceeding I am so very sensible that I shall serve him to my power without reserve in all things whatsoever; nay, though he should hereafter rebell against the aged viscount, I shall for ever take his part and plead his cause. I suppose by this time my Lord Buckingham's voyage hither is unriddled in the coffee house, and that, as it often happens upon other occasions, his great business is found to be no business at all. I will also by this time conclude yourself and all such anti-courtiers, as you are so convinced of the peace that new measures must be taken by all such as grounded their politicks upon the continuance of the war. Upon this discourse I shall delate more when I see you, which now will be soon, for, though I have not named my day to go from hence, it is named for me to be at Westminster. As for the question you ask concerning her grace and her son's pretensions to my Lady B. P.,^a that is a matter she has had very long in her wishes, but has fail'd in all the attempts of carrying it further, and is at last tired with the King's nonchalance in the prosecution of it, which could hope for success from nothing but his vigour in it. However, the young lord stays this winter in England, to be at least in the way, and if any method can be found to set the business on foot, I will take upon me the part of minding the King to be a little more vigorous now it is near than he was when it was at a further distance, which possibly was the occasion of his taking so little care in it; of this more when I see you. As for your not going to Rufford this

^a This passage relates to George Fitzroy, Earl of Northumberland, the King's third son by Barbara Duchess of Cleveland. The "Lady B. P." was the Lady Elizabeth or Betty Percy, the only daughter and heiress of Joceline 11th and last Earl of Northumberland of the old line. She was four years old at her father's death in 1670, and therefore between twelve and thirteen when this letter was written. The King had made his son Earl of Northumberland in 1674, and he advanced him to the dignity of a Duke with the same title in 1682; but the Lady Betty was married at the latter end of 1679 to her first husband Henry Cavendish, Earl of Ogle, only son of the Duke of Newcastle, who died in 1680: she was then affianced to Thomas Thynne, of Longleat, and was the cause of his murder: and at last she became the wife of Charles Seymour, the proud Duke of Somerset.

summer, you know you have long since lost your credit with me, who have always thought you ungratefull to God Almighty in not caring more for a place he gave you from his beloved tribe of Levi, and if ever it should be in danger of returning to the monks again, I should think you deserved that heavy judgment, and were one of those that brought it upon the nation by your not living eight months of the twelve in the paradise of the whole North, if paradise can lye northward. I am very sorry any man at Barroughby can be mortal, but especially so able a minister as Daniel, but, since his his son is found fitt to succeed him, I should be glad he would begin to shew his abilities by sending up some money that I may meet it at London. I have had but fourscore pounds of the last Ladyday rents; I presume his father had collected the rest, and if it be not all ready paid in, it were worth the looking after. I beg you will in that case issue out your orders to Mr. Talbott, to take some care in it, for that remainder will be a notable sum to find ready at my return. I think I have given you trouble enough for one post, and there is hardly room left for an excuse, which is very lucky for a man who is not very good at making them; but that which I can do very heartily is presenting my most humble service to your lady, and daughters, and assuring you of my being most affectionately and most faithfully yours, etc.

LX.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Octob^r 1st, N. S. 1678.

I received your letter last night, and accordingly did conferr with Mr. Marquis concerning the settling the young gentlemen at Geneva, and have advised him to take the first opportunity of the coach for Lyons, and I do not doubt but the good capons and trouts will make them proper men, and the spiritual food of the successours of John Calvin will as well nourish their souls. The air is good, and they may learn all things there, so that I think you have chosen very well for them, if you can bear the reproach you formerly lay under

in England, for breeding your sons at so sanctified a place. As for your books, I have sent you word already I will take greater care of their conveyance than by trusting them to a man of the sword. I have your cutts of houses already, and bought by Mr. Ireson exactly according to the orders you gave him yourself; so that on that point I cannot err. I shall not stay long enough to receive any other comands from you before I see you, being in order to my return for England going to Fontainbleau to take my leave of the Court, which is the occasion of my present brevity. I am, dear brother, eternally yours.

LXI.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, October 7, N. S. '73.

I had been with you my self instead of this letter had we not had pretty quick intelligence that the parl^t would not sitt till the end of the month instead of the beginning; but that being signified to us I confess I am for Paris preferable to Newmarkett, and am therefore resolved to spin out my time so as to meet his Mat^y at London, and that will agree with my duty as well as inclination. This resolution will make me want a small supply from England (after great admiration of myself for having lived three months upon two hundred/. and fifty pistoles of it laid out in the best books of the world, which must always be accounted a standing treasure,) therefore, upon certain supposition that my new bayliff has enabled you so to do, I desire Mr. Bird may speedily return me fifty pounds upon sight. The merchants I would have him deal with are Abraham and Isaac Hoblon (whose correspondent here is one Franchipan), for I find upon inquiry their bills to be the best, though I know not the men myself. Our young sprouts are in admirable health, and had been at Lyons by this time but that their governour has had a fever, so that Wednesday next is destin'd for their beginning their progress. They tell me (who came from Fontainbleau but last night) that they hear their brother is at Lyons. If that be so, methinks I might have some hopes of seeing him here before my return into England,

unless you have directed him some other way, at which I can give no manner of guess. My Lady Scroop came hither on Tuesday last from Bourbon, little satisfy'd either with her waters or her journey, and is like to do France all the ill offices she can in England, having yet found nothing here that pleases her; but my L^d Sunderland has undertaken to make this peace, it not seeming y^e most difficult he has been employed in. Pray present my humblest service to y^r lady and my nieces; and if you have any further comands for me, cease not to write till I send y^u word I am coming.

LXII.

Viscount HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.^a

March, ^{20th}/₃₀, '78 / 9.

I make use of this minute to write by this gentleman who is just now going towards you. It will be no news to you by that time this reaches you that my L^d Treasurer [Danby] hath resolved to lay down his staff; and it will be as little to tell you that the world is still jealous he may take it up again in convenient time, or else keep such a station near the King as may make him the same omnipotent figure as before under the disguise of some other name. This, you may imagine, the hard-hearted Commons of England will be very willing to prevent, and therefore in all probability they will go on with their impeachment^b now that all the dispute about the Speaker is made up by the late short prorogation for two days.^c The commissioners of the treasury design'd are L^d Arlington, S^r John Ernely [Chancellor of the Exchequer], S^r Edward Deering, Lory

^a When Henry Savile had been appointed Envoy Extraordinary to France, Algernon Sidney addressed to him weekly, or nearly so, the letters published in 1742. They began 3 (i.e. 13th) February, and continued till the 31st October (i.e. 10th November) 1679. As the letters of Henry Savile written from Paris are dated in the new style, I have added those dates to the letters of Lord Halifax.

^b The impeachment of the Earl of Danby at the bar of the Lords was 23rd December, 1678, but parliament was prorogued on the 30th Dec., and dissolved on the 25th January.

^c The King rejected Seymour, who had been chosen unanimously by the new house; after the short adjournment, Serjeant Gregory was elected by a compromise.

Hyde, and Sidney Godolphin. I am call'd upon in haste, and therefore can add no more. Adieu. Yours.

My old Lady Sunderland hath been very ill, and is not yet out of danger.

LXIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, March 31, N. S. 179.

I was obliged to write so many letters the last post, being the first after my arrivall, that I was fain to let you know from others that I was safe here, for want of time to let you know it myself; time being the most precious thing among statesmen, and what we want most, money itself being hardly excepted. The first thing I am to say to you is to return you fresh thanks for your horses, for upon tryall I find them so very good I am bound in justice to tell you how sensible I am of a present which hath been so serviceable to me, and like to continue so, for I am welcomed here with an assurance I shall a month hence have the pleasure of beginning a voyage which is to last at the least four months, if the whole design be not prevented by the emperour's refusing to ratifye, for which he has demanded five weeks time more, but has obtained but fifteen days. But of this there is but little appearance, though there is a shew of providing in case of the worst; the Mareschal de Crequy and all the officers of the army being commanded to it with all convenient speed and the whole regiments of guards order'd to march to Metz. You will take it ill a man should write you no more news from such a place as this, but it being the holy week all mankind is in such devotion that you would take all Paris but for one monastery; and the zeal of our English martyrs who are fled for religion is so outdone by thousands here that my Lady Scroope is not at all distinguished from the common crowd. I have not yet had my audience, nor do I expect it till the holy days are over. I meet with some of your son's fellow travellers, who speak very kindly and advantageously of him, without any manner of allay, but that

he is very inclinable to be fat, though as much vexed at as some of his friends have been before him. Pray let y^r lady and daughter receive all the complements for me you can make them, which must always be less than I mean them, being to them and you most unfeignedly and most affectionately what I should be.

LXIV.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, April 15, '79, N. S.

I had this week a letter from you brought me by a gentleman who goes on his way to Mr. Pierpoint on Monday next. I am so far from wondering you were in such haste as you mention that I wonder you could afford me any one line in a time so full of notable accidents, in which I doubt not you have had your share; and I hope in a little time now to hear that you are admitted to court as well as my L^d Cavendish, whose personal behaviour to his Maj^{ty} I thought had been such as would not have brought him to Whitehall before you. As for the fall of my great friend, he was so long tottering that he gave his friends leisure to prepare themselves; besides in the midst of his friendship now and then [were] such mortifications that, though some men may out of point of honour lament him, few besides his own family will do it out of any other reason.

As to my private interest, I do not think the change at all disadvantageous to me, counting upon three of the five new ones to be so much my friends^a as to let me have all manner of justice and perhaps some favour. I send you two enclosed for my Lord of Essex, one from myself to give him joy of his new imployment, the other is from my Lady Savile, widdow to S^r John Savile of Copley, concerning a servant of hers who was taken for a priest. She brought it to me herself, and desired I would prevail with you to deliver it,

^a The five proposed commissioners were mentioned (ante, p. 76), but the Earl of Essex was placed at the head of the Treasury, and the Earl of Sunderland and Henry Coventry were Secretaries of State; the Earl of Arlington was Lord Chamberlain.

believing it would come with more advantage to his l^{ps} hand from yours than from any other. The daily expectation of the ratification here is all the news we have. The King goes to Fontainebleau the 27th instant for ten days; his great voyage begins the first of June; and I have already my orders from England to attend him in it. Madame de Longueville was last night given over by her physitions, having been all her sickness so closely attended by the Prince of Condé, that is grown as famous for a kind brother as for a great captain. I hear your son is upon his way from Madrid, but how long he will be upon his journey or whether I shall see him before the progress I cannot say. As for the youngsters at Geneva I do not know where to enquire of them, therefore pray let me know in your next their correspondent here. It is unimaginable how many and how considerable people here are clapt up for poysoning.^a I will not imagine you have more leisure than you had till several things be done in parl^{mt} which are not yet mention'd in the Gazettes, so that I will take up no more of y^r time than to make my complements to my sister and niece, and to assure you of my being *tout à vous*.

LXV.

Viscount HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

April $\frac{10^{\text{th}}}{20^{\text{th}}}$, '79.

I had yours last night, and deliver'd both the enclosed to my L^d of Essex, who telleth me that the business is already done which my Lady Savile recommendeth to him. I find you suppose me amongst others by this time restored to grace at Court, but I am so ill at making steps as they call it, and the good impressions that have been made of me do so remain that you may reckon me amongst the incurable, except there be a miracle made on purpose for me,

^a Algernon Sidney wrote to Henry Savile $\frac{2}{13}$ May, 1679, "The horrible reports made from France of poisoning affright reasonable persons here as much as the discourses of the Fleet at Brest do fools." (Letters, p. 59.)

and that you will say is not very likely.^a Your late friend taketh up all our time and is almost as great a grievance to us now he is falling as he was whilst he remain'd in power. Our house is gentle, but the House of Commons, being a true representative of England, are stiff and surly in the point, not to be soften'd by conferences, nor persuaded by expedients, though we are to make one tryal more to see whether they will relent.^b I hope you have made a good change, as well as the nation, by having the treasurer turned into a commission where you have friends that at least will be just to you; but if they go no further I doubt that will hardly serve your turn, especially if you go the journey with an equipage suitable to your excellency's character. The Prince of Condé was long since thought a better brother than ordinary to his sister Longueville, so it is no surprise to hear he continueth it. It is a misfortune to great people that they must be tempted to think death a worse thing than it is, by the weight their friends put upon it, either out of kindness or ostentation; and, as their physitions must not let them dye without pain, so their friends will not let them leave the world without making them be troubled at it: well fare the skillfull paysoners you speak of that make an easy and a short passage into the other world, and yet the world is so ungratefull as that they must be punish'd for it. My young men are well at Geneva, where I hope the King of France will let them alone, and not force such a couple of hopefull Protestants to take sanctuary for their religion in Switzerland. Harry is making haste towards you, but I am apt to believe you may be gone from Paris before he cometh to it. However I have allow'd him only to stay there for a few days, being desirous now to have him with me. I write this in the committee chamber, and am just now going into the house, which sits this afternoon. Adieu.

^a See post, note ^a, p. 84.

^b The Commons insisted on proceeding notwithstanding the King's pardon; a bill of attainder was passed: and on Danby's surrendering himself on 10th April he was committed to the Tower.

LXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, May 2d, '79.

At my returne from St. Germain's two days since, I found y^r Ex^{cy}s letter; for which I render you my most humble thankes, as well for the most exact account you are pleased to send me of the present state of your affaires at Nimeguen, as for the most welcome expressions of your favour and kindnesse to mee, on which I doe with all truth and respect imaginable assure you I doe sett a very high value, and shall endeavour to give all the demonstrations of it that shall ever by any welcome accident lye in my power.

The ministers from Denmarke and Brandenburg have been struggling at this court who should make the earlyest, the speediest, and the humblest offers, and it is noe longer doubted that peace will bee concluded within the three weekes additionall time granted to Mon^r de Brandenburg upon his owne request, and upon the delivering Wesel into the French handes; but these are matters you are already informed of where you are, that being the stage where all things of this kind are acted.

I did observe a more than ordinary satisfaction at this court upon the Duke of Lorain's refusall to sign the ratification, and, whatever the wishes or endeavours of his friends heer may bee, I look upon him as at present in noe manner of likelihood of obtaining better tearmes then those he has allready refused, though I am told Mon^r de los Balbaces (who has been heer since Wednesday last) is to make a very earnest attempt in his favour; in that case I shall not fayle to add my small assistance, though in my owne opinion I can not bee sanguin enough to beleieve wee can have good successe from any thing we propose in that matter, beeing induced to that beleefe by a thousand circumstances I see here, and which were too tedious to trouble y^r Ex^{cy} with; though for one I must agree with you that the sad condi-

tion of our affaires at home doe at present lessen the credit we have every where with our neighbours, as I percieve you find as well as I.

Wee being heer so neer a generall peace have little warlike newes to send you, though there are yet noe orders to prevent the marche of the Mar^l de Crequy that I can heare of, and le Comte de Roye and le Marquis de Joyeuse, who are named for Lieut^t.-Generalls against the Elect. of Brandenburg are hasting to the army, though at the same time I heare of an order going out to disband 7,000 horse, and that this King, having disbanded as far as he intends, will yet keep up 5,000 dragoons and 12,000 horse more then hee had before the last war; and foot proportionably; but this is onely discourse, though from pretty good handes.

The voyage to Fontainbleau is noe more mentioned, and most thinke the great voyage will either bee much retarded or wholly putt of.

I shall not give y^r Ex^{ty} further trouble at present; but with the humble respects of, my Lord, y^r Ex^{ty}s most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.^a

L^d Emb^{dr} Jenkins.

LXVII.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, May 3, '79.

I have had yours of the 10th of April in my hands longer than I could well justify, if you were not a man of great business in Westminster and I of some at St. Germain's, and the writing to both your secretary's of state taking up generally a good part of the post morning, so that I find myself frequently streightened in time to write to those who I am the most obliged to write to, amongst which number you will give me leave to reckon your Ld^{sp}. If my intelligence from

^a Savile had written to Jenkins on 14th April, tendering his services at Paris.

England be such as ought to be sent to a statesman abroad, this will find you re-establish'd in your seat at the Privy Councell, in which case I shall give you joy, though I presume other present circumstances of affairs have already given you more since I left you. I confess I think you have reason enough to be satisfied with the fall of the late great man from his high station, but I think I understand both your nature and your stile better than to believe the silly story's that are spread here of the jests you made and the triumph you shew'd at his first being brought to the bar of your House, and therefore I take pains to vindicate you, which I find the easier having my Lady Scroope to help me, and I think betwixt us we shall keep your reputation of good nature as right here as you care to have it, though many of the martyrs have set you down for one of their chief persecutors. How far the probability of the peace of the North is advanced you will have heard from Nimeguen, but the Dane and Brandenburgenvoyes having been posting who should ride fastest hither, striving who should make y^e earliest and the humblest offers to his Ma^{ty}, who will very much consider his own allies, as he thinks himself in honour obliged to do; and it is counted upon here that the peace is as good as made, and that those who have sent in such haste for termes will accept of any that shall be given them. I am told your son is now at Bordeaux, and will be here on the fourteenth of this month, so that I shall see him in his return to you. Since you do not intend his stay shall be long here, I hope your haste is upon some good grounds, else I should complain you would not trust him some time under my tuition; but his Ma^{ty} having trusted his business with a man, has not this long time been an argument for you to trust any thing else with him, especially your son and heir, so that knowing your methods I do the less repine. Our great voyage is a little retarded, but to my grief will certainly be made, after the business of Madelle's being made Queen of Spain is finish'd.^a Mon^r de los

^a Marie Louise, daughter of Philip Duke of Orleans by Henrietta of England, and niece of Louis XIV: she was married to Charles II. of Spain in the month of August of this year.

Balbaces is arrived for that purpose; but the motions of Spaniards are slow you know, and the day of his entry is not yet so much as named. I will now commit you to your more important affairs at Westminster, and conclude with my compliments at Halifax House in due formes, and with great truth,

LXVIII.

Viscount HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

May Day $\frac{1}{10}$ th.

It seemeth you had the knowledge of my preferment before I could tell it you, so little did I apprehend myself to be likely to be readmitted into the state of grace, as you might perceive by the stile of my last, in w^{ch} I assure you I did not dissemble with you.^a To undertake the being useful to my friends in the station I am in, would be a piece of arrogance very unfitt for a counsellour of a new edition; but if ever such a miracle should come to pass, as that from such a degree of disfavour as I have lain under I should come to have any credit, no doubt but our envoyé in France might rely upon a friend at court. I am already brib'd to it, by your zeal to justify me against such scandalous accusations as that you mention in your letter, yet I am not so much offended at the lye as I am pleased that my Lady Scroope defendeth me. Pray improve my thanks to her in the best manner, and tell her the right she

^a Sir William Temple, under date of 21st April O. S. 1679, says, "I had proposed Lord Halifax as one of the Lords [of his new council of 30], whom the King had indeed kicked at on our first consultation more than any of the rest; but upon several representations of his family, his abilities, his estate, and credit, as well as talent to ridicule and damage whatever he was spited at, I thought his Majesty had been contented with it: but at this meeting he raised new difficulties upon it, and appeared a great while invincible in them, though we all joined in defence of it: and at last, I told the King we would fall on our knees to gain a point that we all thought necessary for his service, and then his Majesty consented." (Sir William Temple's Memoirs, ii. p. 495.) In Dalrymple the appointment is ascribed to the influence of Algernon Sidney.

doth me in her opinion doth more than make amends for all the injustice I can receive from her whole party. The peace of the North being so far advanced maketh our jealousy of France so much the greater: his army being now at liberty, and we having yet provided nothing to secure us but the abilities of our envoyé. I suppose Harry may now be with you if no accident has made his journey slower. I have confined him to ten days or a fortnight's stay in Paris; in which time you will be able to search him, so as to send me his perfect character along with him. And pray take some pains in it, it being of some moment to me that I should not mistake his humour, which is less discoverable by a father than by any other man less concerned. I cannot blame you for fearing a journey with a court; I know few things would give me more terrour, but it must be done, and I dare rely upon you for making it as easy to you as the matter will bear. We are here every day upon high points: God send us once at an end of them! Impeachments of ministers, tryalls of peers for their life, discourses and votes too concerning the heir presumptive,^a are the only things our thoughts are employ'd about. And I that have dream't this half year of the silence and retirement of old Rufford, find myself engaged in an active and an angry world, and must rather take my part in it with grief then avoid it with scandal. Whatever passes is sent to you of course, so that I shall never write any news to you except you bid me. My Lord Sunderland is very kind, and I value his being so to the degree I ought. I need not tell you how much you owe him, but remember it is no small things for men at court to speak kindly of their friends when they are at a distance. I leave you to your triumphs for your great wedding; and that I may close with a pleasing line to you, I was told by a Frenchman that *Monsieur Savile fait les affaires de son maître le plus habilement du monde*. Adieu.

^a The Commons voted that the Duke of York's popery encouraged the papists in their murderous and traitorous designs; and the Lords agreed to it with the introduction of the word "unwillingly" on the part of the Duke.

LXIX.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, May 17, '79.

As I told you of your coming to Whitehall before I had the news of it from yourself, so I tell you of your going into Ireland before I have your own word for it, whither you are destin'd.^a I wish you better fortune than our great-uncle found there;^b though I think you go in a time when you will run as great hazards as any of your predecessours, and for that reason the glaring outside of that preferment does not please me so much as if I had heard you had a less honourable, provided a less hazardous, station. Your son is arrived here, and, according to your orders, I will do my best to find what sort of gentleman he is, and send you his character with his person: in the mean time I will satisfy you that his outside is very well; his complexion is near the same with your own, but will be a little brighter when the tan of a Spanish voyage is gone off, but, having as good eyes and as fine teeth as ever I saw, he has a very good countenance and has a clean look, and like a man of quality. He is about my height, and as yet slender enough, so that, wanting my breadth, he appears tall enough, and probably may yet grow a little more. He has lost his sheepish shamefacedness quite; and I see already that Mrs. Beale will run some hazard by being in the house with him; and so had Mrs. Gregory, if she had stay'd, so it is God's great mercy she is gone. For his talents, nature, and humour, I shall be more perfect in them upon a little more conversation with the gentleman; but already I can see he has a good deal of wit, and upon the whole matter I see a great deal of what I like, and nothing that is to be disliked. If I find

^a Algernon Sydney had sent the rumour of this supposed appointment in his letters of 7th April and 1st May N. S.

^b Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, whose eldest sister had married Sir George Savile. Strafford was guardian of her infant children; and in his Letters (vol. i. p. 169) is one to his nephew Sir William Savile (Halifax's father), dated from Dublin Castle, 29th Sept. 1633, advising him "to distrust himself, and fortify his youth by the counsel of his more aged friends before he undertakes anything of consequence."

any such thing you shall have warning of it very sincerely, that you may mend what is amiss, which will be easy for you to do; because I find him prepared to have a thorough deference for you; and if he does not please you, you will be very hard to be pleased, for as far as I can yet perceive you would have an ill bargain to change sons with any man I know in England. Thus far I can honestly say now, without the partiality of an uncle. I shall tell you more as I see more, and so much at present for my chief. On Monday next my Lord Lexington goes hence for England, whose person and nature seems well enough; but I do not take him to have such a reach as our Dolphin of Rufford. I made y^r complements to my Lady Scroope, and left her in the resolution of returning hers to you herself. I will leave you to your high points in parl^t, but desire you not to trouble yourself for the present with the apprehensions you conclude from the peace of the North. What may happen some little time hence I will not answer, and will hope our condition may then be better prepar'd against the worst events; but for the present, as small as my abilities are, I think they can secure you from present trouble, and let the future take its fortune.^a The voyage of this court being broken you may imagine has given me satisfaction enough; and I hope I have given you enough concerning your son, who will give you more than all the world besides; and, as I do not doubt it, so I wish it with the truth and earnestness of one who, under God, does love and ought to love you both preferably to all other men living.

My humblest services to my sister and niece.

^a In allusion to this fear, Savile, on the 13 May, 1679, wrote to Jenkins:—"I agree with y^r Exc^y that the generall peace is now soe neare as that it can very hardly by any accident miscarry. But I am yet awhile a little too sanguine to thinke the leasure it will produce heer can occasion any present mischiefe to us. God send us but moderate and prudent at home, and I will yet hope we may be secure from our most potent neighbours abroad. But, though we differ in opinion in this matter, I am confident wee agree in our prayers for the quiett of our country." (MS. State Paper Office.) And Algernon Sidney (Letter 36) said:—"We have every day foolish alarms from the French fleet, and find none but my L^d Sunderland and myself that believe not one word of it."

LXX.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, May 22, '79.

Though y^r Excell^{cy}s letter of the 6th mentions that Mon^r Meinders has left Nimeguen to hasten hither, I doe as yet heare noe newes of him, though probably I shall bee one of the first who shall bee acquainted with his arrivall, since your Ex^{cy} tells mee hee will aske my assistance; how free I shall bee to give it him I doe not yet know, for sure I am I will not meddle in his affaires without new and pos^tive orders from our owne court, not beeing willing to use my master's name and credit in things which are not likely to have good successe; for amongst such must I put this businesse of Mon^r Meinders, and wonder that either hee or his master should flatter themselves with hopes of any better quarter after having delivered up his townes into handes that are as apt to take advantage of such a proceeding as is possible.

It yet passes for a secret heer that Mon^r de los Balbaces has demanded Madamoysele to make her Queen of Spaine, but the thing is as certain as it has been thought to bee all over Europe a good while.

Mon^r de Strasbourg deferred his journey from day to day, and did not goe hence till last Thursday, having left his favourite neece to follow him a fortnight hence.

Theer is noe thing heer worth troubling you with, and therefore I shall at present onely humble remayne,

My Lord, y^r Ex^{cy}s most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

L^d Emb^{dr} Jenkins.

LXXI.

Viscount HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

May 12th, '79.

I find by y^r letter to my L^d Sunderland that your nephew is come to Paris, and am not sorry to see you do not altogether dislike him. Your opinion of him more at large I expect when he cometh over; in the mean time, though you will hear it from better hands, I will not omitt to tell you that your letter to Mr. Secretary Coventry was read at Councell, where it received so much applause that I hope it will encourage you to deserve more upon all occasions you shall have to send any account of your transactions;^a and as the best evidence that your dispatch is approved, it hath produced an order which will not only be for your credit and vindication, but will give universal satisfaction to every body here, there being few things that gave more offence than the too familiar admittance of embassadours, especially of those from France, to speak of business to the King. Now, though it happeneth well for your credit here that you are the occasion of having this regulated, yet I hope you will not impute more to yourself in it than is necessary in the place you are in, that you may not draw a disadvantage upon yourself by seeming to resent too much what hath been done to you in relation to your own particular. You see a new counsellour will be advising, though whilst I am writing I conclude you will think fit to do this without my putting you in mind of it. We begin to hope the French will not discompose us this year, since it is so far advanced, and that such a diligent watchman as we will suppose you to be doth not give us any alarum of it. There is no need of any thing from abroad to give us exercise, being sufficiently employed at home in parl^t, where things are started every day that will make the world conclude we are in a more quarrelsome humour than I hope will be

^a The despatch is not among the MSS. in the State Paper Office. It was evidently aimed at M. Barillon.

found when men have had a little time to grow cool.* The particulars of every thing will be sent to you by my L^d Sunderland, who telleth me he taketh care you may know all we do. I write this whilst we are at councell, which you therefore ought to take kindly, and think I have acquitted myself pretty well to you, though I add no more but that I am, &c.

HALIFAX.

LXXII.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, May 27, '79.

I wonder to find by yours of the 12th that you quote my letter to my L^d Sunderland for the news of your son's arrival here, when by the very same post I wrote you a pretty long letter concerning him, and till he go himself I will say no more of him than that I like him better still every day than other, and those are certainly the best things that improve daily upon our hands. His governour says he will write to you this post for a yacht to meet him at Dieppe on Tuesday come seven-night. The young gentleman's reason for going that way is because he never went it yet, and is willing to add Rouen to the rest of his travels, but my consideration is because he can go that way in three days in a coach and not get a new weather-beaten countenance after having but just recover'd his Spanish one, and so appear at his best when he arrives at London; so that you must not fail to let a yacht meet him at the time desired, which now, God be praised, you have credit enough to procure. I am very glad my letter that was read at councell received the applause you say it had; new beginners are tickled with a little praise, and I cannot deny but that I am extremely delighted with the success of this affair (though to shew nothing of that here is a great part of my satisfaction), and therefore your

* The famous bill of exclusion against the Duke of York was read a first time on 15th and a second time on 21st May (O.S.) by a majority of 207 to 121.

advice was less necessary upon this occasion than it used to be; for I had spoilt all if I had either prated or threatned, therefore my interest made me more silent than possibly my friends would think me apt to be upon such an occasion; they would also do me but justice if they would think I had not meddled with it at all but upon serious consideration how very proper a time this was to stir in a thing I knew were so generally complain'd of when others were in power; so that I thought it would be some credit to me to get a thing done when we are not very well here, and my character so small, which Mr. Montague in the time of our strictest alliance, when they would have done any thing for us, did not think fit to do for the honour of the nation. There are other things in which I will desire your advice in a letter I will write by my nephew, in which I will endeavour also to inform you of some matters that I think ought to be recommended particularly to the care of those who mean what I assure myself you do towards your country, the consideration of which (how foppish soever) will steal upon a foreign minister in spite of his teeth, and I dare say Sr Peter Wyche can no more help having it at Hamburgh than I at Paris. For news, I write all I know to the two Secretarys, and you, being of that thing which was once called the Cabinet Councell, have the perusall of all that comes to them, so I need add nothing more than that I am every thing to you that either your reason or your kindness can wish me.

My humble service to my sister and nieces.

LXXIII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, June 5th, '79.

When you have had the examination of the young gentleman who brings you this, I doubt not but you will be so well satisfy'd with him as that it will put you in good humour to all your family; this

then shall be the time I will take to recommend my concerns to you, and since you are grown so great a man in so short a time, you will not wonder that old courtiers think it proper to ask you for your protection. In the first place, as you are of the Committee of Intelligence, you have the perusal of all the letters I write to Mr. Secretary, and by consequence you ought truly and friendly to tell me if in either the manner or matter of what I send I commit any errors that lye in my power to rectify, and this I conjure you to do, not imagining that I can take any thing ill of that kind, since it is the greatest favour can possibly be done me, and is of a kind that, out of an odd nicety, few friends will be forward enough in. And now, knowing how publick-spirited a man you are, I will put you in mind of some particulars that in the hurry of your great business seem to be forgot, or else from being very remote are not observed, as that Coll. Dongon, a papist, is Under-Governour of Tangier, Coll. Stapylton, an Irish papist, is Govern^r of the Leward Islands, and do also there execute the office of Vice-Admirall by virtue of a comission from his R. Highnes, given since he laid down the anchor in England, as if his power had yet subsisted in the Indies as well as in Scotland; nor do I think the true English interest at all safer in Jersey in the hands of the new Governour S^r Jo. Lanieres, who, besides a vile reputation he has in this country, has his whole estate under this King in Picardy. I am not at all acquainted with any of these three gentlemen, but I confess to have three such important places in such hands I cannot but think worthy your consideration. I am very confident as yet the Duke of York has had no tampering here, but remains under the same displeasure with this King that he has done ever since y^e marriage of the Prince of Orange, and the zeal he shew'd last year to enter into the war; but I will not doubt but when you have made him desperate in England, upon the least application he will make here, he shall be received into favour as a proper instrument to hurt England with; how soon that will be, will depend much upon what is done at Westminster, where every body is so much wiser than I that I dare not venture to name

the word moderation, but I confess without a little at present you may hasten troubles that else would be longer coming. I presume you saw what I writ to Mr. Secretary about the report spread here by the English Catholicks that this King had sent a complement and promise of assistance to our Queen; certain it is that the Portugal minister here does acknowledge to have had great discourses with this King upon this subject, and has had a letter from the Countesse of Pinalva by the Queen's order, to thank him for the concern he has shew'd in her affairs.

The Archbishop of Paris, and the Père de la Chaise, do all they can to prevail with this King to make him revenge the quarrel of the English Catholicks upon the French Protestants, who tremble for fear of some violent persecution, and are ready to go into England in such vast numbers as would be a great advantage to the nation, if you would by easy naturalization make it in the least easy to them. I find those who are rich are afraid our King should meddle with their concerns, but the crowd and the number talk of nothing but the necessity of his declaring himself Protectour of the whole Protestant religion, and live upon the hopes of seeing that glorious day. How ripe you are for such designs I cannot answer, but after some steps are made I believe you will find this a very necessary one. All Protestants are turn'd out of all places except just the *gens de robe*, but all in the finances and all the common souldiers in the guards are cashier'd, which would be no disadvantage to you in a dispute with this crown, for you would have them all if you pleased; and in this article I think I ought to place abundance of his Ma^{ty's} subjects who would not return upon the summons the last year, but would now make great haste in case of an amnesty, which I should think might be granted them.

I have writt to Mr. Secretary severall times to tell him the necessity of having something put out in print to give an account to the world of our proceedings since the discovery of the plott, which for want of some such treatise is wholly unbeliev'd here, and our nation upbraided with all the infamous reproaches the violence of

angry fooles can invent. I have made Coleman's tryall and Oates his depositions be translated, but cannot get them printed; I would therefore downwright ask leave of this King to print them as a justification of my master and country, but I cannot get a line from the Secretary upon this matter. And now I must needs tell you a story much like the accidents that befell you several times last winter, and, as I fear them as little as you did, I hope they will hurt me as little as they did you. On Saterdag last an English servant of mine, standing at my door, an Irish priest going by ask'd him, what news from England; he answering there was none, the priest told him then he would tell him some, which was, that the very night that the news should come of the death of the Lords in the Tower,^a every English Protestant in this town should be murther'd, and I in the first place; my foolish fellow had not the wit to follow him, nor take him, but says he spake this in a very calm quiet tone without the least passion, and as if he did not wish it; this my man told several others before he told it me, and therefore, instead of saying not a word of it, as I should have thought the best way, I am now fain to turn it into ridicule as the second best, but by this impertinent thing you may give a guess how these villains are incensed, and therefore, though I will not disquiet myself with any fear of them, yet I cannot with my small character, and by consequence my slender attendance, think myself wholly out of danger of some affront in their passion.

This as well as all the other circumstances of this letter I write to a friend and a brother, not a privy-councillour, and therefore use your discretion in not speaking of these things as yourself shall think fitt. The state of the Brandenburgh concerns I have writt to Mr. Secretary. I go to-morrow to St. Germain's for the same answer I suppose which Mon^r Moinders has had. There is a report here of the Duke of Bavaria's death; how true I know not, but the particulars are likewise in Mr. Secretary's letter.

I hear from England I shall be forced to keep a chaplain, which

^a Lords Stafford, Arundel of Wardour, Bellasis, Powis, and Petre.

I never less needed, having never fail'd Charenton one Sunday since I came into France. How much more that is for the King's service you cannot imagine, unless you saw how kindly those poor people take so small a countenancing as mine is^a; but if I must set up a chappell you must help with the rest of my friends to have my allowance increased for it, for my house must be bigger, and my Sunday's dinner must be a new and great expense to me, besides the extraordinaries that every clergyman living will put the family he lives in to.

As for my nephew, I leave him to your own observation of him, but I am very far from recalling any words I have said to his advantage; quite contrary, the more I saw him, the more I liked him, and am infinitely sorry to part with him.

This letter grows so out of all measure long, that I am asham'd to scribble on, though I could add several other things if they would come into my head, but I must leave you to the enjoyment of the young gentleman, which with my whole soul I wish may be long and happy. Adieu, dear brother.

LXXIV.

HENRY SAVILE to L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, June 6, '79.

This dos humbly acknowledge the receipt of yours of the $\frac{20}{30}$ of the last, and I can assure you the orders sent to Mon^r Blaspeil with you and Mon^r Meinders with us will not yet doe the businesse, soe

^a In a letter written to Henry Savile on the 25th June O. S. 1679, Lord Rochester thus rallies him on this subject:—"I cannot deny you a share in the high satisfaction I have received at the account which flourishes here of your high Protestancy at Paris; Charenton was never so honour'd as since your residence and ministry in France, to that degree, it is noe doubt, if Parliament be sitting at your return or otherwise, the Mayor and Common Council will petition the King you may be dignified with the title of that place by way of Earldom or Dukedom, as his Majesty shall think most proper to give or you accept." (Familiar Letters, p. 18.)

firmes is this Court upon this occasion. Poor Mon^r Meinders is terribly afflicted, and, though hee confesses the manner of reception to bee very civile, yet hee finds this King soe fixed that hee has not any hopes of gaining the least tittle of what hee came for; however, being willing to have partners in his refusall, hee will have mee goe to St. Germain's this day to receive the same answer I suppose hee did, which I must doe, having orders from England to assist him his owne way. Hee has leave to stay heer tenn or twelve dayes longer upon his owne businesse (as hee calls it), but the use hee has made of that time is to have sent to his master for his finall resolution whether hee will part with Stettin or continue the warr, there bee- ing noe medium.

Theer was yesturday a very hott report in this towne, how true I will not answer, that the Elect^r of Bavaria was dead of an apoplex, and that the Emp^r was guardian to his daughter for eighteen monthes, and by consequence master of 18,000 in her pay; if this bee true, it is come a little too late, for had it hapned sooner I will not say how it might have changed the face of affairs all over Christendome.

After all his delayes Mon^r de los Balbaces has at last resolved upon Sunday for his entry, in which if hee fayle the lovers of fine- sights will never take his word more. I begg y^r Ex^{cy} to take mine that I am most respectfully and sincerely, My Lord,

Y^r Ex^{cy}s most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

L^d Emb^{dr} Jenkins.

LXXV.

Viscount HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

June $\frac{2}{12}$ nd, '79.

I had yours yesterday by the young gentleman, who telleth me he will write this post to you. I find him full of his acknowledgements for your kindness to him, by which you have gain'd a friend, if that were worth anything. I suspend my judgement till I see more of him;

in the mean time I will only tell you I am not discouraged by what I have seen already, and finding him so much leaner than I expected was a welcome disappointment to me. His Madrid complexion I hope will not last always, but that our climate will unbake him, and then his person will be tolerable.^a But to go on to answer your letter in the several parts of it: You may be assured that whatever I observe in your letters that may be liable to exception you shall know of it, it being an unkind piece of tenderness to conceal any thing of that nature. Your next advertisement concerning Tangier, &c., is that which hath been thought of; but whether any good is to be done in the particulars you mention is more than I can at present determine. The objections against S^r J. L. were offer'd and press'd, but without any success. I agree much with you in what you say concerning the Duke, and if the parl^t had continued^b I should have had the opportunity of shewing moderation, which was never more advisable for many reasons than upon this occasion. It becomes the zeal of the French clergy to press the King to a persecution by way of revenge upon us here; but I will hope wiser things of the governm^t there than that so unreasonable a thing should prevail; however, if the fear of it putteth thoughts into the Protestants of removing hither, I am sure we must renounce all good sense if we do not encourage them by all possible invitations. It hath ever been so much my principle that I have wonder'd at our neglecting a thing we ought to seek; and those that have not zeal enough to

^a On the same day Algernon Sidney wrote :—"Your nephew arrived here last night. His friends find he bears in his face too fair marks of his Spanish journey; but in all things else I believe he will give them as entire satisfaction as unto me, who ever had an extraordinary good opinion of him." (Letters, p. 76.)

^b Algernon Sidney, writing on the prorogation, said :—"All men's wits have been screwed ever since that day to find out its consequences. Every body hath had his conjecture, and the most ignorant shewed themselves the most bold in asserting their opinions. Many find that the King would not have done it if he had not resolved to send for the Duke . . . sell Jersey and Tangier to the French (for which Mr. Savile is to make the bargain), &c. The place from which the foreign assistance should come is not known. Mr. Savile is not thought very good at such treaties." (Ibid. p. 77.)

endeavour it for the preserving our religion might have wit enough to do it for the encreasing our trade. But to think of any greater designs is not fit for our age: we may please ourselves with dreaming of such things, but we must never hope to get further. For that which concerneth an amnesty to the King's subjects that did not obey the King's proclamation the last year, if they are Protestants I think it a very fitt thing, and shall move to have it consider'd. As for the printing Coleman's tryal, I doubt your zeal may go a little too fast in it. You are to consider there are several expressions against popery that his Christian Maj^{ty} will never allow to be publish'd by his authority, and to make a request which would be deny'd might be of much worse consequence than the letting it alone; so that you are not to wonder if Mr. Secretary doth not encourage you in a thing he himself doth not approve. I hope the notoriety of the fact, as our lawyers call it, is evidence enough of the plott; and yet it is in vain to hope it will ever be confess'd by those that say still there never was any such thing as the Massacre at Paris, or the Gunpowder Treason in England. The story of your Irish priest is a very odd one, and I shall not conceal it, though we do not need here any further proofs of the good intentions of our popish countrymen abroad. I hope you will use ordinary cautions for your safety in all events; as for extraordinary ones, and such as bring great trouble with them, a man must count ill that thinketh life worth them. You need not much fear the having a chaplain imposed upon you; besides the charge, it would be an incumbrance, for which I should pity you; but I do not at all apprehend you will be putt to such a tryal of your patience. I approve y^r going to Charenton, and your countenancing the Protestants, which I think the principall work of an English minister in France; but I am apt to believe it may make the court there very weary of you, it being a method that they have of late been so little used to that they take it for an injury. This is enough for once, and, being at the bottom of my paper, I will leave you to your better entertainments. Adieu.

LXXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, June 16, '79.

Y^r Excell^{ys} of the 9th is come to my handes, and I find you soe incurable in your apprehensions that I am resolved to give you over for desperate, and bee contented to find you confesse when I have the honour to meet you one day in England that you were too early in your feares, and that my sanguinesse was not onely the effect of my complexion, but of some observation also that might reasonably justifie mee in those thoughts.

On Sunday last Mon^r de los Balbaces made his entry heer soe like that you saw him make at Nimeguen that those who saw both say they are the very same coaches, liveries, &c.; the truth is there was very little that appeared quite new, and he was not a little lucky in a rainy day that hidd his old equipage, making it onely look wett instead of old.

The Cardinal D'Estrees either is arrived or hourelly expected; 'tis said hee shall returne soon to Rome, and act the part of embassadour without the title, in the place of the duke his brother, who has asked and obtained leave to returne to this court.

Mon^r Meinders was at St Germain's the beginning of the week, with a letter from his master to his M. C. M., written before Mon^r Meinders his courier from hence arrived at the Electour, soe that this is noe answer to Mon^r Meinders his negociation, but a complementall sorte of submission that will have noe returne; this poor gentleman now utterly despairing of any the least successe in his affaires, but his master must either make warr or submitt without reserve to what was prescribed him at Nimeguen.

The Comte de Soissons went yesterday to Turin. There is noe better reason given for his voyage then to cure himselfe of a violent passion hee has for a mayde of honour that is too cruell to submitt to anything but marriage, and those are tearmes he cannot easily bring himselfe to.

LXXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[CRIST. State Paper Office.]

Paris, June 18, '79.

My Lord,

Y^r Excellency's of the 3^d is come to my hands, and I find you so invariable in your apprehensions that I am resolved to give you over for desperate, and am contented to find you content when I have the honour to meet you one day in England that you were too early in your fears, and that my engagements was not only the effect of my complexion, but of some operation also that might reasonably justify me in those thoughts.

On Sunday last Mon^r de las Balbases made his entry here so like that you saw him make at Nimegue that those who saw both say they are the very same coaches, liveries, &c.; the truth is there was very little that appeared quite new, and he was not a little lucky in a rainy day that hid his old equipage, making it only look new instead of old. The Cardinal I believe either is arrived or hourly expected; his said he shall return soon to Rome, and set the part of ambassador without the title, in the place of the duke his brother, who has asked and obtained leave to return to this court.

Mon^r Meinders was at St Germain's the beginning of the week, with a letter from his master to his M^t C. M., written before Mon^r Meinders his counter from hence arrived at the Elzevir, so that this is now answer to Mon^r Meinders his negotiation, but a complementally sort of submission that will have no return; this poor gentleman now utterly despairing of any the least success in his affairs, but his master must either make war or submit without reserve to what was prescribed him at Nimegue.

The Comte de Solms went yesterday to Turin. There is no better reason given for his voyage than to cure himself of a violent passion he has for a martyr of honour that is too cruel to submit to anything but martyrdom; and these are reasons he cannot easily bring himself to.

The judges that were appoynted to trye the prisoners for poyson have theire authority encreased by beeing alsoe made judges of all things relating to the poor Protestants heer;^a by which meanes I suppose we shall suddainly see more temples demolished, their predecessours having condemned sixteen in Gascony and Poitou within these six months. Brittany and Normandy come next. I doubt these poor people have the worse quarter in revenge of what is done to the papists in England: would to God wee had a good change made.

Mon^r Bielhe, Emb^{dr} of Suede, has had a private audience; but as yet has neither coach, horses, nor house, towards a publick one.

I have noe thing further to trouble y^r Ex^{cy} with but the assurance of my beeing, my lord, y^r Ex^{cy's} most humble and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

L^d Emb^{dr} Jenkins.

LXXVII.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, June 17, '79.

I have yours of the 2nd, and am most heartily glad the young gentleman is arrived safe with you. I will answer every day will make him appear better to you, he being one of those (which surely are the best) that does not make it his business to shew his best ware first, having amongst the rest of his good qualities no manner of affectation in his nature: but you will soon know him better than I, and so I leave him to your further discovery of him. The most of your answers to what I wrote to you by him are so very satisfactory, that I find nothing considerable left for me to reply; especially in that particular of Coleman's tryal, where obedience is to be my most convincing argument; Mr. Secretary's humour as well as employment admitting of no disputes from so small an officer as I am,

^a This irregular tribunal, called the *Chambre Ardente*, consisting of eight councillors of state and six masters of requests, was appointed by a royal commission, dated 7th April, 1679: at first it was to inquire only into all cases of poisoning, witchcraft, impiety, sacrilege, profanation, and coining.

else I confess I would have one stroke more at that business; his main reason being, as I think, but a very slender one, viz., a refusall, which, in earnest, in this case I must think equally good with obtaining what is desired; for if I could but answer to those who mention that matter to me, that I could not obtain leave to vindicate our nation by such an action, it would have all the effect of the best justification could possibly be put out; and as for the refusall of any thing ask'd here, both myself, and I believe most of my predecessors, have and shall be so used to that work that it is not a thing must be apprehended, or made an argument in the most trivial cases. As for the amnesty I mention'd, you may be very sure I only meant Protestants, of which I am credibly informed there are a considerable number, which will wholly be lost to our nation if that matter be not speedily redressed; the despair of it having already engaged many to change their religion, with the intention of wholly changing their country, since they are banished their own.- My Lady Scroope^a came yesterday from her cell, and surprised me going to dinner, of which she took her share, upon account of that gravity which belongs to a minister. Whilst she was here she had a letter from you, for which she will, I suppose, thank you herself; however, I was charg'd to make you her complements. I will never pretend to write you any news from hence, since the little I send in Mr. Secretary's letter you have the free perusal of by your station. There is great triumphing here for the prorogation of the parlt,^b as well by the French as by those of our nation who are here upon the

^a Lady Scroope was a Catholic, and sister of Lady Holles. In a letter dated 19th Feb. 1679-80, Lady Sunderland tells Mr. H. Sidney: "My Lady Scroope writes to me that Mr. Savile is sometimes a very impertinent minister. He is more than ever with her, in what he writ hitherto. She is in as ill hands as can be for her." (Blencowe's Diary, &c., i. 280.) And in his diary, under date of 15th April, 1680, H. Sidney, giving the story of one Butler, as to a plot said to be hatching in France, describes that person as saying: "that he would not speak of it to Mr. Savile, because they told him he told all he knew to a woman." (Ib. ii. p. 30.)

^b Parliament was prorogued on 27th May O. S., till 14th August; it was dissolved in July, and the new parliament met 26 January O. S., 1679-80.

account of the present conjuncture. When nearer, my politicks were never very good; but I must lament to see that fate will never suffer our two houses to agree when unanimity is the most necessary. I do begin now to despair of it, since upon so necessary an occasion they could find no expedient to finish some of their great undertakings, and that a sessions from which so much was expected has perfected so very little that their power as well as their prudence does to all strangers seem ridiculous. Your being a courtier, as it will hinder you from going to Rufford, is like to cost you many a dusty journey to Windsor; where if anything happens worth my knowledge pray let me hear from you as often as you well can, for, though letters are always welcome to people abroad, I find a man with a character has more than ordinary need of hearing from his friends; mine leaving me the shame of hearing sometimes English news at the French court. I am sorry Sr W^m is gone into the country before my nephew arrived. Young men at their first starting must have some documents from all their relations, and his had certainly been none of the worst. I hear H. Sydeny is entring into our order, and bound for Holland. Pray make him my complements upon it, and tell him I shall be one of the first to congratulate him at the Hague.^a My complements to y^r family shall end my letter as well as my paper; and so adieu, my dear brother.

LXXVIII.

Viscount HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

June 12th, '79.

The gentleman that brought you one of mine not keeping his day promised to call upon me again for another, which I writ and he

^a On the 9th, i. e. 19th, June Algernon Sidney wrote:—"I presume you know that H. Sidney hath bought Mr. Godolphin's place of Master of the Robes: gives 6,000*l.*, and is to go Envoy Extraordinary into Holland. The Lord Ranelagh, for the same sum paid to the Lord Sunderland, is made Gentleman of the Bedchamber in his place." (Letters, p. 91.) H. Sidney was Minister at the Hague till June, 1681, when he was recalled, to the great regret of the Dutch. (Blencowe's Diary of H. Sidney.)

never came for it, so that I will send it you by the post. Our fears in relation to Scotland lessen every day, for, though the rebels are together in a body to a considerable number, yet they being so ill arm'd and disciplin'd, it is to be presumed that the King's forces, which now are 10,000 men, will not find much difficulty in suppressing them. The D. of Monmouth is by this time at Edinburgh,^a and it is hoped that we may have such an account from thence by the next express as may make our preparations here unnecessary. When this storm is allay'd, the King intendeth to go to Windsor, and I have it in my thoughts, though it is not without some doubt, to make a short visit to poor old Rufford; for which my passion increaseth proportionably to the difficulties that arise in getting to it. The peace concluded with the Elector of Brandenburg maketh France the more terrible, now it is absolutely at leisure to do whatever their own strength or their neighbours' weakness may tempt them to do. I am interrupted whilst I am writing this to you, so that I make an end something sooner than I intended, though I have nothing at present to say that you should lament my omitting it. Yours.

LXXIX.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[Extracts, MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, June 30, '79.

I have on purpose deffered writing to y^r Ex^{cy} till I could send you the every day expected account of Mon^r Meinders his negociation, which was yesterday concluded: hee has rangled hard to keep as much for his master as hee could, and though hee have parted with

^a The rising at Bothwell Bridge after the murder of Archbishop Sharp, on 3rd May, 1679. The decisive action in which Monmouth routed and dispersed the rebels, whose numbers had increased to 17,000 men, was fought on 22nd June O. S. 1679. Waller addressed some complimentary lines to Monmouth on this successful expedition.

Stetin, I find him a little comforted that hee has preserved a place called Colberg, and everything else on this side the river, except Dam; and there is alsoe a summe of money obtained hence, but how much hee did not tell mee, and therefore I doe not beleieve it very considerable, else hee would most likely have bragged of it. This is not onely the greatest but onely newes I can send y^r Ex^{cy}, who will pardon my brevity, beeing just taking coach for St. Germain's. . .

I am, my lord, y^r Ex^{cy}s most faithfull humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

LXXX.

SAME to SAME.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, 4th of July, 1679.

I sent y^r Ex^{cy} word by my last that the Brandenburg affairs were concluded heer; now I am to acquaint you that the Spanish are soe too, his M. C. M. having granted Mad^{celle} to the King of Spayne, as hee declarid on Saturday last to Mon^r de los Balbaces; to-morrow Monsieur sends the Marquis de Pluveau into England to aske the consent of our master as an uncle, and another gentleman is dispatched with the like complement to Bruxelles to his Royall Hig^{esse}.

Mr. Brisban has received orders from England to returne thither. I am told alsoe of other of his Maj^{ty}s ministers recalled by the good husbandry of our present Com^{rs} of the Treasury, but I heare none named for certain but Mr. Soame from Turin.

Y^r Ex^{cy} may now expect us heer soe busy in the preparation for this great marriage as to think of noething else for a while. It is said the King of Spain will meet his Queen at Barcelona; in the mean time the Duke of Pastrana is coming with great presents for her, and the Marquis d'Astorgas is to come to conduct her. From this matter there will arise dayly circumstances to divert us heer. As farr as you can share of them you shall have constant intelligence from, my lord, y^r Ex^{cy}s most faithfull and obedient serv^t,

HEN. SAVILE.

L^d Emb^{dr} Jenkins.

LXXXI.

HENRY SAVILE to Viscount HALIFAX.

Paris, July 5, '79.

I had yesterday y^r two letters of the 12th and 19th, of which though I understood one was to come by a gentleman, both came by the post, which is much the surest way when there are no such secrets as one would scruple trusting to that conveyance. I have never envied you since I saw you till you send me word you have hopes of seeing Rufford; it is the only place under the sun I would willingly change this for; and, as I have often reproached you for not deserving it, I doubt your young gentleman will take as little pleasure in it as yourself, for which you are both to answer to the kind Heavens that gave it you at the price of removing a number of constant inhabitants, whose successors would so fain have it again. I have long since acquiesced most obediently to Mr. Secretary's orders concerning printing the tryals; and, since it was the opinion of so many wiser than myself, I am also convinced of the reasonableness of it, and am now of the excusing part for my earnestness in it, to which almost any man would be provoked by the horrid impertinence and obstinacy of all here as to their unbelief of our plott. I am very glad your Scotch business is in so fair a way towards its conclusion. Surely these accidents will at last cure my master of his infinite passion for his beautifull paramour of Lauderdale, who must certainly deal with the devil if after this he can keep his station much longer either in our nation or his own. I need not entertain you with either the marriage of Madelle and the King of Spain lately declared, or with that of the Duke of Savoy and Infanta of Portugall,^a of which the confirmation came hither yesterday, with this circumstance, that the Duke is to go to Lisbon to consummate, and then

^a The Infanta Isabella Louisa was only child and presumptive heir of the Prince Regent: it was intended to suspend the fundamental law of Lamego in her favour, but neither this nor any other proposal for a marriage with a foreign prince was concluded.

bring his Princesse to Piedmont, to stay the leisure of the P. of Portugal's death, who, being a younger man than I am, I hope by the course of nature may be presumed to make this young couple stay a good while before their return to Lisbon. As for any knowledge people had here of what has fallen out in your Northern parts, I cannot think there is anything of it, but rather believe that your great jealousies does your Gallick Machivillians too much honour, for, whilst we attribute the foundation of our misfortunes to them, I believe they have not more merit than just that of making a wise use of what happens amongst us after it is happen'd without that previous contrivance which they are supposed to have; but even thus much is advantage enough to keep them still in possession of a great ascendant over us, till we are either wiser or luckier at home. I need not ask whether my nephew goes with you into the country, imagining part of your business is to have him to yourself. Pray present my kindest complements to him, and tell him his friend S^r Tho. Isham will go into England in a fortnight. When you have further made my complements to your lady and my niece, I have nothing but to wish you a good journey and happy return, and so God bless you all.

LXXXII.

Viscount HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

London, July 17th '79.

My being at Windsor since I had your last hath made my answer so slow to you, and to do it now in method, I must tell you as to your first point concerning my journey to Rufford, that I doubt you may spare your envy to me for it, since I am likely to make none, or so very short a one as will only serve to grieve me for not being able to make it longer. Your nephew seemeth to be in great impatience till he seeth it, and I think there is no better receipt to make him love it than the taking care he may not be cloy'd with it. I hope we shall both joyn in justifying our usurpation against the

Benedictines, and, how little zealous soever we may be in other respects, we may be relyed upon, from our tenure, to be most unmoveable Protestants. I cannot blame you for being a little stirr'd to see men's unbelief so ill placed as to think there is no plott here. There are late evidences very material to justify Mr. Ireland's being in town at the time Mr. Oates said he was, and yet that was the principal thing insisted upon by the papists to blemish his testimony. How you and my Lady Scroope can agree upon this matter I am not able to imagine, and especially to live in the same house, which maketh the wonder great. Here is lately come out in print, amongst other libels, an "Advice to a Painter,"^a which was written some years since and went about, but now by the liberty of the press is made publick, which for many reasons I am sorry for. The Scotch lords are to be heard to-morrow morning, and the King hath appointed me amongst others to be present at it. The D. of Monmouth hath leave to come back, all being now very quiet in Scotland. My L^d Sunderland being absent at Althrope, whilst your letter came to him at Windsor, I took the liberty to open it, not knowing but it might have something in it proper to acquaint the King with; but, there being nothing but what relates to the governor, I thought it might keep cold, and shall take care to deliver it to my l^d when he returneth, which will be next Wednesday. I hear you have been in some fears you might be supplanted by an embassadour, but my l^d telleth me he sent you the King's answer to put your thoughts at quiet in that particular. Here is Monsieur Flamarin from Monsieur, to give notice of Mademoiselle's marriage, but I do not find he saw you before he came from Paris, which I thought was to be of course upon such occasions. Next Thursday at Hampton Court, the resolution will be taken about the time of meeting of the parl^t; in the mean time I leave you to the enjoyments of your beloved town of Paris, and so kiss y^r hands.

^a Andrew Marvel's *Advice to a Painter*, written in 1667. (*Poems on Affairs of State*, ed. 1703, i. 89).

LXXXIII.

H. SAVILE to the Earl of HALIFAX.^a

Paris, July 22, '79.

I am glad to find by yours of the 7th that you had been at Windsor, it being so new a scene to you considering your long absence from thence that it may in some measure recompence for the disappointment of your journey to Rufford, for which you know I have always told you a very slender excuse would serve the turn, nor am I less glad to find you a kind of deputy Secretary of State in the absence of my L^d Sunderland, as well because of the intimacy it shews to be betwixt you, as because it is a good omen for preferment, for I remember my Lord Clifford was so to my L^d Arlington when he went into Holland, and was Lord Treasurer six months after. My Lady Scroope is not yet return'd from Bruxelles, so that my door into her house is not yet of any use to me, but I am confident we shall agree very well about the politicks, at least not to talk of them. And now I mention my house, I am to tell you that the furnishing it is a most terrible thing to a man that has not a joynt stool upon earth, and, though I hire most of my furniture, a good part must be bought, so that all the branches of my revenue are necessary upon this great occasion, which will I think make me draw my hundred pounds due at Michaelmas upon you, not doubting but you will accept my bill, being used so frequently to make me that advance at the like distance of time. I hope it will be the last I shall take to myself of my annuity whilst I am in France, intending to add that to my Barroughby rents for S^r W^m Coventrye, if some very pinching necessitys do not intervene to oblige me to the contrary. As for your concern for a certain printed paper, the greatest grief I have is that it is very falsely printed, for as to all other considerations such old stuff is so long forgott that I do not think it will have any effect to the prejudice of those you are con-

^a Created Earl 16th July, 1679.

cerned for. I am enough revenged of Mons^r Flamarin for not having so much manners as to come to me before he went into England by Monsieur's telling me it was foolishly done of him, and it may probably be the occasion of sending a wiser man another time, as was intended this time if he had not been sick. I would fain have you talk with Mr. Brisbane, who will be at London as soon as this, about the necessity of my making some appearance at the marriage of Mad^{elle}, for, let the exchequer be never so low, it will be a scandalous shame upon this occasion, which I say for the honour of my master more than myself who have no manner of appetite towards bravery; but it will be taken notice of extreemly if it be otherwise, and therefore pray give your helping hand towards my having a supply for that purpose, if Mr. Brisbane convince you of the necessity of it, and pray tell him further I writ kindly to you concerning him, which I can very heartily do, thinking him a very honest, understanding, knowing man in many things, as possibly you are acquainted with. My humble service to my sister, my nephew, and my nieces shall conclude this, having nothing further to tell you, but that, though I have not the happiness of your friend Father Patrick's company, this town is lately made happy by his arrivall from Bruxelles.

LXXXIV.

The Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

July $\frac{1}{2}$ th '79.

I had sent you the first newes of the dissolution of the parliament, but that H. Thynne promised to do it, so that I relyed upon him, and I suppose he did not fail you. It is to be presumed you make comments upon it at Paris, as we do at London, though not just the same; and you may be sure that those who are near the King have their share of the censure that ever attendeth things of this nature. You would think it a strange thing to have it from other hands, and not from mine, that the King, resolving to add my L^d Roberts and my L^d

Gerrard to the Earles' bench, hath thought fitt to let me keep them company. I keep the same name still, and intend your nephew shall take that of the barony, which is Eland: if any young woman that is a good match may be found that can be fool enough to like him the better for it, this piece of preferment hath something in it, else it is to me of very little moment more than as it is a mark of the King's favour, which maketh every thing valuable. I am often at Windsor, where much of the time is taken up about your friend my L^d Lauderdale, who is defending himself against the Scotch lords, who have brought up their lawyers to report their complaints; and, though perhaps after the hearing they have had all things will not proceed so as they might expect in relation to their own particulars, yet it is believed they will have the satisfaction of seeing their great adversary removed, but when and in what manner is a thing of more uncertainty. Our cousin Coventry is marry'd to L^d Wiltshire, and the wedding kept with great solemnity according to the fashion of old England.^a I do not find your nephew hath any great stomach to matrimony, and I am inclined to let him follow his own genius, having so many years before him, that he may throw away a little time with the less disadvantage. There is nothing to tell you from hence worth the making this longer, and so I take my leave. Yours.

LXXXV.

HENRY SAVILE to Lord Ambassador JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, July 29, '79.

This is most humbly to thanke y^r l^p for yours of the 21st, and with it y^e treaty of peace you were pleased to send mee printed, which will, I suppose, conclude all the long trouble you have had at

^a Algernon Sidney wrote on July 16, "The Lord Wiltshire's marriage with Mrs. Coventry was the last week celebrated with great solemnity, and yesterday the young couple came to the Marquess of Winchester's house, where there was a mighty feast and much dancing and rejoicing." (Letters, p. 136.)

Nimeguen,^a and I know not but after such an absence y^r Ex^{cy} will bee as glad to returne to London as Mon^r Colbert can bee to come hither, whose impatience as well as his ladyes is heer said to be very great; and, hearing from England that your letters of revocation are already prepared, I presume this may very probably bee the last trouble I may give you, and therefore it will bee proper for me to render y^r ex^{cy} my most humble thankes for all the exact accounts you have been pleased to give mee of your transactions where you are, which were not only of great pleasure but of great credit to mee, since otherwise I must have owed that information to people heer, which by your kindnesse I had as soon as themselves.

As for y^r refusing the jewell, I thinke that is without other president then that of my Lord Holles, who, leaving this place before our first warr with Holland, and not beeing able to gett this King on our side (who was soe soon after against us), said hee would not doe his own businesse if hee could not doe his master's, and soe would not accept a rich diamond that was offer'd him; but y^r L^{ps} case is much different, beeing at y^e concluding of a peace, upon which occasion the partyes reconciled have ever made presents to those who mediated, and this I beleevve you will find to be our master's sense of it, if Mr. Colbert, as hee threatned, goe that way to worke to make you receive it. However, my lord, as your other abilityes have

^a For the copies of the letters and documents relative to the Treaty of Nimeguen, see Wynne's Memoirs of Sir Leoline Jenkins. In recent works the dates have been somewhat confused. From the MSS. in the State Paper Office, it appears that in July, 1674, the King of England offered his mediation for a peace between France and the Allies; this was accepted, and a congress arranged. The instructions to the English plenipotentiaries, John Lord Berkeley, Sir W. Temple, and Leoline Jenkins, are dated 9th December, 1675, and the mediators arrived at Nimeguen in July, 1676; negociations went on, but it was not till 17th September, 1678, that a treaty of peace was signed between France and Spain, and at length on 3rd February, 1678-9, the treaty of peace was concluded and signed between the Emperor and the Empire on the one part, and the French King and his Allies on the other, by which Phillipsburgh was ceded to the Emperor, and Friburgh to the French King, whilst the Duke of Lorraine was restored on conditions. By the conclusion of this treaty the general peace was restored. Some months elapsed before the exchange of the ratifications, and Leoline Jenkins finally left Nimeguen on the 8th August, 1679.

been very eminent in the whole negociations, this will bee interpreted a great piece of generosity, soe that the honour you have done both yourself and your country will sufficiently appeare both abroad and at home, which has not been every man's case after seven years' toyling in a most intricate affaire.

I am under a promise to Mon^r Meinders to make y^r Ex^{cy} his complements with all the affection and respect with w^{ch} hee ever mentions you.

The Pere de la Chaise has had the speeches of the five last Jesuits hanged in England translated into French, and has shew'd them his M. C. Maj^{ty}: they have a terrible effect heer, people beeing soe possessed against us upon this occasion, that it will need some very exact narrative of all has passed amongst us to convince the world our proceedings have not been soe barbarous as heer and everywhere southward they have been reported to bee. If y^r Ex^{cy} find anything of the same kind where you are, I hope you will second mee in my opportunityes at our court, that they would print something in Latin or French, or both, that the whole world may bee judge of, for seriously it is very needfull for the honour as well as to vindicating the justice of the nation.^a

The Prince and Princesse D'Harcourt are at last named to conduct the Queen of Spayne, which is noe small mortification to some other great people heer who hoped for that employment.

I have noething further but, with my humble thanks for all y^r Ex^{cys} favours, to offer you my most humble service, if I can bee of any use to y^r Ex^{cy} heer, and to begg that you will beleieve you can bee in noe part of the world where you will not bee most extremely honoured and respected by, my lord, y^r Ex^{cys} most obliged, most faithful, and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

^a These were Whitebread or White, Fenwick, Harcourt, Gavan, and Turner, the five Jesuits convicted 13 June, 1679, on the false evidence of Oates and Bedloe. (State Trials, vii. p. 311.) They died with solemn protestations of their innocence before God and man.

LXXXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, Aug. 2d, 1779.

You are in the right, that the dissolution of the parl^t was a piece of news that flew fast hither, but for making comments upon it is beyond all our skill, who neither know the advisers nor the arguments for it, nor the effects that are hoped from it: all I can say is, this work will probably make burgessing cheaper than it was formerly,^a if that appetite should ever return to me of which at present I have very little; but the step you have made in your house I do congratulate, provided the dissol. of parl^t do not make the time a little improper for his Maj^{ty}s favour to appear to his privy counsellours, but in your dignity you make me wonder your son does not keep his name as well as you yours, but that you have chosen that of all your scutcheon that made the most unfortunate end, not to be so foppish as to say the most sinfull one,^b but according to that stile it is well we are past the third or fourth generation, and I cannot conceive how either the sound or the antiquity of that name can please you better than your own; but of this enough; only my complements to my Lady Anne, who I think has not the worst part of this matter. What resignation soever I have made to your former opinion concerning the printing of something in French concerning the plott, I must again press it, for, since the speeches of the dying Jesuits which the Pere de la Chaise had translated and shew'd this King, and every body have seen, the rumours concerning our barbarity increase daily here, and it grows absolutely necessary something should be done in our justification; but of this I have said more in my letter to Mr. Secretary, of which I presume you

^a Sir J. Reresby ascribed the large expense of elections to the great anxiety of candidates to fill the few seats that came vacant during a long parliament.

^b Eland was the seat of the eldest branch of the Saviles.

will have the perusal. I have already given you warning that there was a bill of exchange coming, and I doubt not but Mr. Ord has sent it you: my method in those cases being but a word and a blow. I had a letter last post from my Lady Winchester to take into my custody a very small quantity of plate belonging to her son, but she does not tell me where I shall find it, which were a question easier ask'd by you, than worth troubling such a great lady with a letter about it. My Lady Scroope is return'd last night from Bruxelles; I have not yet had a full account of her voyage, but she tells me y^t your name is up there for one of the advisers of dissolving the parl^t; ^a if it be true, I am sure every man that is chosen again will hate you for putting him to a second trouble, and then you will not have so many friends in the next as you had in the last, only you will have more need of them by your increase of favour at court. But I am running further into politick reflections than will become a man that is too far off to judge exactly, and therefore I will conclude with what I am more perfect in, which is a thousand kind complements to the Countess of Halifax, my Lord Eland, my Lady Anne Savile, and not forgetting my little Lady Betty.

LXXXVII.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Windsor, July 28th, 179.
August 7th.

The first thing I am to tell you now is that your bill is accepted; of which I suppose you would not make any doubt no more than

^a The prorogation had taken place on the advice of the *triumvirate* Sunderland, Essex, and Halifax; the dissolution was agreed upon by them and Sir William Temple: and was strongly opposed by the Lord President (Shaftesbury), the Lord Privy Seal (Anglesey), Lord Russell, and two or three more of the Privy Council: at length the King was "forced to enlarge on his utter despair of coming to any agreement with the present parliament and the reasonable hopes he had of more compliance with another, and finally to order the Chancellor to draw up a proclamation for dissolving the parliament and calling another," upon which the council broke up in displeasure. (Ralph, i. 472.)

you will of my endeavours to assist in getting you an extraordinary supply for the present occasion, if they had been necessary, but my L^d Sunderland and the rest of your friends have been so kind that they presently allow'd your request to be reasonable; and have before this sent you their opinion, that your best way is to lay out what is necessary, and put it upon y^r extraordinaries. I have spoken to Mr. Brisban, who is very well satisfy'd with your manner of living with him, and, as he is full of his expressions of kindness to you, I have taken care he may not think you behind hand with him in that particular. The man seemeth to deserve every body's esteem, and I believe is so fit for employment that it will be no discredit for any body to recommend him. Monsieur Flammarin assured me he would wait upon you at his return, and that I presume will attone for his former omission. I congratulate the good agreement like to be between you and my Lady Scroope, and it is the more commendable, because there is nothing but Christian charity that can be the inducement to it; I hope you will laugh one another out of your great zeal, and conclude she is no more earnest for Rome than you are for Charenton. The parl^t here is put off for ten days longer, for which other reasons are given out, but the true one is Newmarket. My L^d Sunderland is gone for a week to Althrope, and I stay here till he returneth. My small tenement is so remote that I cannot so easily divert myself with such small journeys, and I now begin to doubt the summer will pass without my seeing poor old Rufford, now that I have made it deserve a visit better than ever it did before. If I had my choice free, I should prefer being there before this place with all its glory. There is a certain charm in that we call our own that maketh us value it above its true price; but I must lye under the mortification of an absent lover, and am not like to give any other expression at present of my kindness to Nottinghamshire, than the lamenting I cannot see it; I leave you to the triumphs and diversions of your great wedding, and to your particular enjoyments of Father Patrick, and so kiss your hands.

LXXXVIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, Aug. 12, '79.

Yours of the 28th begins with the acceptance of my bill upon you, for which I humbly thank you; but the next paragraph brings not so good news, since it seems I must lay out upon the Spanish match, and trust God and the King to be reimbursed; an after game is a base business for a younger brother, but we must make the best, if my friends cannot prevail for some part of it in present, which I leave to the management of yourself and such others as you will call to your assistance in this important affair. As for Mr Brisban, I am glad he does me right in my way of living with him here, and, in those cases, much depends upon the men we have to do with; and I believe we might have lived here about a thousand years without meddling in one another's business, which generally occasions the feuds betwixt ministers. Mon^r Flammarin's visit will be a great honour, but he is not yet return'd from Bruxelles, whence we daily expect James Porter with the Duke's [of York's] complements to Mad^{elle}; and he goes on with them afterwards to the King of Spain. My Lady Scroope comes to her house the next week, and I doubt not but we shall live very neighbourly together; but I am to speak to you in behalf of another lady, whose merit will sufficiently speak for herself, since you were in danger of a duell for her but a year ago. She has to do with such a hound that the truth is it is impossible to deny her any relief that depends upon any body else, therefore I will not believe you will wave the request she makes to you to interest yourself in her concerns, who cannot possibly be in the wrong, considering who she has to do with, but in not cuckolding him. Your philosophical contemplation of not seeing Rufford makes my worship smile. When a lover is absent by his own choice it is a sign of a very moderate passion, and such has yours always been for Nottinghamshire. My complements to all your family shall conclude this, most humbly kissing your Ld^{sh} hands.

LXXXIX.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Windsor, Aug. $\frac{1}{21}^{\text{th}}$, '79.

I find by yours that the late dissolution hath given some of us fame abroad as well as at home. It is some kind of preferment to be rail'd at, and I do not know whether I shall ever get any further; in the mean time I have argued myself into so much philosophy upon this occasion, that I am neither disquieted nor alarm'd by it. You quarrel at my son's title, but when you consider that the advantage if any of my new promotion is only to him, and that in respect of some young woman with a good portion may perhaps by mistake think the better of him, it may be an argument that he is call'd by his title and not by his name, to take away the possibility of his ladies being thought a knight's wife, an objection I have often heard amongst the women, and so I let it prevail with me. I approve the continuance of your zeal to vindicate our proceedings in the plot against the scandals that are thrown upon them; and if you will needs publish some counter-poison to the infamous reports that are made of us, I cannot think of a shorter way than the translating into French a very good pamphlet lately come out as an answer to those very speeches you mention, which were made by the Jesuits at their execution. I will talk with some body about it; but I, being your younger brother in zeal, may perhaps not be so quick in it as to satisfy your impatience, and therefore I would not discourage you from what other ways you think fit to take to keep up the credit of our religion. My Lady Winchester sayeth that the plate she recommendeth to your care will be brought to you, so that you do not want any more particular directions. I think you are well dealt with in being advised by your friends in the Treasury to lay out for the present occasion, and then send in your bills, in which I advise you to be moderate, not only for conscience' sake, but also in prudence, because it will give you credit with them, and justifie

their kindness to you, which it concerneth you extreemly to preserve, there being so many occasions for you to make use of it. The Treasury is to be adjourn'd till near Michaelmas; but my L^d of Essex telleth me he hopeth some money may be provided for you before they meet again for this particular occasion. I am pleased to see your earnestness for a fair lady, though it is not necessary to me, who do already think it would be a sin not to be partial to her in the dispute with her husband; and yet I have not that reason for which you and my L^d Newport are to be suspected and envyed. S^r W. Coventry will not be perswaded to stand for this par^{nt}, making use of his ill health for an excuse. Your friend my L^d Daincourt will try at Newark, but sayeth he will not be at any charge, which maketh me doubt his success; for I doubt your noble friends there will not much approve a dry election, as a thing of ill example, and tending to introduce presbytery, by the way of small beer, besides the detriment it may bring to his Mat^{ys} revenue of excise. My L^d Lovelace bestirs himself in these parts upon the election days, having several brought under his care, and is extraordinary painfull in his calling. Algernon Sydney is chosen at Amersham;^a but I hear there is a double return, which will create more dispute. This is a very different scene from your preperations at Paris for the great wedding, which maketh you all there play the fool in another kind, I must not say a worse, because of my known quarrel

^a He had stood for Guildford unsuccessfully; and the parliament did not last long enough to decide his petition, presented 28 March, 1679, against the return. At this July dissolution he and Sir William Drake, knt., were returned on a double return for Agmondesham. Both petitioned, and the House held that neither was duly elected. A writ was issued on 11th Dec., and on the 20th Algernon Sidney again petitioned. The House had decided that the right was in the inhabitants paying scot and lot; and after the general election for the parliament that met at Oxford 21 March 1680-1, Algernon Sidney writes:—"Of those who by the last parliament were judged capable of giving their voices, Sir Robert Hill had 40, Mr. Sidney 37, Sir Jos. Drake 28, and Mr. Cheyney 29; and the constables have pleased to return the two latter." He was again beaten by the influence of the court, and on the 24th March again petitioned, but the dissolution put an end to it. At the election July 1679 it was Henry Sidney and not Algernon who was elected for Bramber. (See ante, p. 44, note ^a.)

to fine cloaths, which maketh me a party, and then I must not be a judge. The Duke hath desired my Lady Anne may go over to him for a month or two, and I hear the King complyeth with it. I have nothing more to tell you, so that the kindest thing is to make an end. Yours.

XC.

SAME to SAME.

Windsor, ^{Aug. 28th,} ^{Sepr. 7th,} '79.

I had yours yesterday, and before I answer any part of it I must for my own vindication tell you I had sent you an early notice of the King's being ill^a if some of your kind friends had not assured me they would do it, by which I was secure that you would not be left in ignorance by my omitting it. The first beginning of his sickness gave us some fears, his continued health making it appear a very new thing to us as well as to him; and then the consequence at such a criticall time did so strike men that they were not left at liberty to judge of it with indifference; but now that he is better, and men's thoughts are a little more quieted, we are in better humour, and if we may believe either the doctors or all other appearances and symptoms there is no cause left to apprehend any danger. The doctors have yesterday given him a remedy which they say will prevent any more fits coming upon him. As to your own business it happen'd well that all your friends in the Treasury were present when I received your letter, which I imparted to them; and I find them so

^a It was upon this first illness of the King in Sept. 1679, that Lords Sunderland, Halifax, and Essex, unknown to Sir William Temple, were induced to send for the Duke of York: and this secret communication caused the estrangement between Temple and Halifax. (Temple's Works, ii. p. 517; Life of Duke of York, i. 564.) Upon this occasion (11th Sept. 1679) Henry Savile, ignorant of what his brother had done, in writing to Henry Sidney says:—"The news of our master's illness has so frightened me that I expect this day's letters with great impatience, as well as with fear and trembling. Good God, what a change would such an accident make! the very thought frights me out of my wits. God bless you, and deliver us all from that damnable curse!" (Blencowe's Diary, &c. i. p. 141.)

kindly disposed towards you that they think it reasonable to go beyond your own proposal, and I believe they will pitch upon 500*l*. to be the sum in gross, without giving you the trouble of sending your taylor's bills. This is somewhat more than 1,500 crowns, and they meet in a few days to do some business, at which time your friend Mr. Guy^a will produce your letter to them, which I left with him for that purpose, and did recommend to his care to get everything done as to the manner of your payment so as it may be the most advantageous for you; and I think I cannot comitt it to better hands. I can easily acquitt you from the guilt of loving fine cloaths for their own sake; it is a crime our family hath very little to answer for, but you must be fine in your publick capacity; and for our credit you must give an advantageous pattern of our wealth by the richness of your embroidery; and of our wit by the choice of your ribbons. Heaven direct you and your taylor so that your poor country may not suffer by you! Adieu, yours.

XCI.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, September 13, '79.

I do so little believe you would give me an untrue account of his Maj^{ty's} condition, that I will allow yours of the 28th was of the highest consolation to me; who, as well out of private as publick considerations, was as much alarum'd at the first news of his indisposition as any man breathing. In the mean time there are those who are near enough the court who send much more melancholy relations of his condition, so that I am not without hourly qualms and disquiets till I hear a more perfect account of his absolute recovery, and am in so great impatience for a further account that time weighs very heavy upon me betwixt every poste; and I must beg whilst he is in any doubtfull condition, you will let me hear constantly from you. As for your negociation with the Com^{rs} of the Treasury, it is so far beyond my hopes that it is my wonder; and if

^a He was Groom of the Bedchamber and Secretary of the Treasury.

you perfect what you have begun, and change the sum I did out of modesty ask into that which you reasonably think necessary, I shall but be reimbursed what I have laid out; and that is a high obligation to those who help me to be so. The conduct of this matter is very well placed by you in the hands of Harry Guy, whose steady friendship to me neither has, nor ever can, fail me, and if you knew him as well as I, whatever disadvantages his exterior may shew to so nice a man as you, you would not find in England a fitter man to make a friend of. Now you are growing so great a courtier your prayers have been heard concerning both my taylor and myself, for both in my equipage and my person I have got immortal honour for my country; to which it has not a little helped that the Spaniards did appear so scandalously that they are forced to play an after-game that costs them double to recover the reputation they lost at the marriage.^a I am just going to Fontainebleau, whither I had gone yesterday in the train of the Queen of Spain, but that this was my writing morning, and I stay'd to answer the letters I received yesterday. I have said all that is necessary to yours, considering the great hurry I presume this will find you in, as well upon his Majesty's account as a new accident I hear of from Flanders. God of heaven send the King well, and put you all both out of the fears and difficulties his indisposition has brought you into! My complements to your family. Adieu, dear brother.

^a In a letter to the Lord Ambassador Jenkins from Paris, 18th July, 1679, Savile told him that "Mon^r de Los Balbaces makes great court to his future Queen, and that will bee the first good businesse that will entertaine us heer, newes coming dayly from Spayn of the great preparations to receeve her, that King resolving that shee shall not go by the way of Burgos, that shee may not see the sterility of old Castile, but by that of Roughillon, Barcelona, and Arragon, that her way to Madrid may not give her any prejudice to that place before shee comes att it. The truth is, if her Maj^{ty} like it not better then I did (See Letter II. ante p. 3), shee will find enough there to dislike without preparing herself beforehand." Writing after the marriage to Henry Sidney on the 28th August, 1679, (Blencowe's Diary, i. p. 102) Henry Savile says: "Thursday next will be the ceremony of the marriage; which will be in every thing else splendid to the same degree of my being in clothes of two hundred pistoles. This may make you laugh, but it

XCII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Octobr 25, '79.

The last post H. Thynne wrote me word you were pretty well recover'd of a distemper none of my friends had sent me word you were ill of, for which I have taken the boldness to chide your son; and this is only to tell you the part I take in your recovery, as well as I should have done in your sickness had I been informed of it. It is very true the report of the English in this town had made you very ill, but hearing nothing of it myself I could hardly give any credit to it; however I am heartily glad it is over, though it is a melancholy consideration that, notwithstanding all your precaution, you have one of these fits once in two or three years, which as you advance in years will probably be more frequent and more dangerous. But now you are well again in your body natural, God send you well in your body politick; for, being kept in a most stupid ignorance of what you are all doing, I am exposed to the fears of all idle reports, which I am not strong enough to contradict by any knowledge of my own, for, only hearing what is done, but never how, nor why, I am often forced to hear my friends charged with

makes me cry that I am not in the modest garb of the head of my family, a plain band Fail not to pity my suffering self in the midst of all the gaudy fools I shall see for a fortnight before I return hither" (Paris). In his letter of Sept. 8th to Henry Sidney (ib. p. 133) Savile observes of the marriage: "There was nothing more magnificent than the French, except the English minister, nor nothing more shameful than the Spanish. For Balbazos, he has been long given over for a niggard, but Pastrana, who is rich, young, and handsome, we expected some mighty things from; and I am very confident the only suit he has worn ever since he came did not cost him seven pistoles. We are told he will make amends by a wonderful splendid entry on the 15th, beeing to go envoy on the 20th, so that he has not much time to recover his reputation;" and in a further letter of 11th (ib. 140) he adds: "On Thursday the Duke of Pastrana makes his entry at Fontainbleau; he has three coaches, of which two are so fine that they are supposed to be for his master. I wish you saw him, that you might know a person that at Madrid is called the terror of husbands."

things of which I cannot easily think them the authors. I am like the man who, winking in the battel, ask'd, "Do we take, or are we taken?" and, being tyed to those interests that inclination as well as nature direct me to follow, I do really not know what they are nor what principles I am to follow, who I am to speak well of, who to condemn, and, therefore, if I make any mistakes, I am very excusable. My L^d Sunderland, whose boundless goodness and friendship to me I am both to admire and to value, took a cypher with me at my leaving England, that I might know something; but, so far from having used it, I have had but two very plain letters from him since my coming hither. I say not this by way of complaint, there being no room for any, his business being an unanswerable excuse, as well as that our friendship is above that kind of expressions of it; but I confess I am sometimes out of countenance to be told things by Mons^r de Pomponne, which I did not know, and asked questions which I cannot answer, so that I am reduced to the truest part of wisdom, which is silence, and upon that foundation must I build my reputation here; in a word, I am fain to nibble in my discourses of England like the asse mumbling thistles; and, whatever good guess I could give, I knew not from those I intend to showte with whether I was to cry a Y. or a M.^a But I forget you are a recovering man, and not yet strong enough to take such large doses as four sides at a time; and therefore having turned over to this it shall trouble you no farther than just to express my trouble for your sickness and my unfeigned joy for your recovery.

God of heaven send you health, my dear brother!

I write nothing of my L^d D. of B[uckingham], who is here; I put all that stuff in my L^d Sunderland's letter, who I doubt not will tell it you.

* The Duke of York visited Windsor on the 2nd Sept.; on the 12th the Duke of Monmouth was deprived of his command of the army, and on the 24th he was on his way to Holland, upon the King's express commands to quit the kingdom. On 7th October the Duke of York obtained leave to reside in Scotland. (Ralph, i. 479.)

XCIII.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Nov^{br} 8th, '79.

Having heard nothing of you by the last post, I interpret it a good sign that you are perfectly recovered, and therefore, supposing you in a condition to serve your friends, I will take the liberty to give you a commission to speak to Mr. Barillon, who has inflamed the D. of Lauderdale against me, by telling him that it was my fault that something was put in the French Gazette concerning him which he did not like, than which nothing is more false. This little urchin does me all the mischief he can, and labours to have me recall'd and to send Mr. Sidney in my place; on the other side, I am told that Mr. Churchill likes my station so well that he has a mind to it, and got his master to work for him, and by a very cunning artifice endeavours to make my friends willing to have me recall'd, upon pretence I live too high and shall ruin myself; but sure you are none of those friends *l'en donner dans ce panneau*, when you know Sr William Coventry receeves my rents at Barraby, and that for the future I also give him my annuity, and the Treasury owing me more than I owe here, I can confidently' averr it would be as much to my prejudice in point of profit as of shame to be so soon recall'd. I do further hear, though not believe (for I will hope I should have been the first you wou'd have spoke it to), that you have spoke with trouble of my manner of living here in point of debauchery. Sure I am that no part of my life has been so sober, and I can be as little ashamed of any part of my behaviour here as any of my predecessours, though I hear of a thousand damn'd false stories of me in England, and should be sorry you should be drawn so far into the belief of them as either to contribute or consent to my recalling, which would bring so much shame upon me that it would in some degree reflect upon yourself, who have power enough now to hinder it. In a word, I do not think Barillon's being my enemy ought to be a good reason

for my return, but quite the contrary; I leave you to be judge what is fit to say to him about my L^d Lauderdale, and if his Grace be yet at London I know not whether somewhat ought not to be said to him, for I have enough to answer to him upon former accounts, without having new laid to my charge which do not belong to me; but all this I leave to you, as well as conjure you not to give too easy credit to idle storys concerning me at the time of my life I do the least deserve them, but that I do by my behaviour as well as by my blood the most deserve y^r friendship and protection, which I doubt not but I shall have to such a degree as either to be kept quiet where I am, or if recall'd, at least it may be to some preferment which may take away the shame of being recall'd for idle surmises and false reports to my disadvantage. Adieu, dear brother, I am unfeignedly y^{rs} &c.

My most humble service to all the nobility at Halifax House.

XCIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

London, October 30th, 179.
Nov^r 9th,

I was not till now well enough to write to you; but those that inform'd you of my being recover'd were a little too hasty, for I am but now creeping out of a distemper that hath afflicted me cruelly; and I have the same contemplation upon it as you have, that things of this kind are apt to grow upon us with our age, which maketh me desirous to take the more time for my cure, in hopes to alter the habit of my blood, and take away that sharpness which it hath ever been subject to. It is not strange to me that censures are thrown at random upon men who are thought to be in business, and they must be content to receive the shot, and yet are bound up by their circumstances from making their defence. You may answer to y^rself and every body else that I will always mean well, and though I may committ errors they will be such as have no guilt in them, if a man can be justified by good intentions. It is not easy to acquaint you with

the details of some things at this distance, though my Lord Sunderland hath always told me he took care you should know everything that was done, as far as it was communicable; and, though I find by yours his correspondence with you is not very quick, yet I desire you will not complain of it, not so much as within y^rself; both in respect of my L^ds nature, that is apt to neglect forms; and, which is a better reason, because he is so essentially kind to you, that you must not allow y^rself to see those omissions, which perhaps would stare in your face if they came from one to whom you were not so much obliged. I must now tell you that I am very sorry to hear that some liberties you have taken of speech not agreeing with the clymate where you are are so ill taken, that it is observed the King of France plainly resenteth it by the manner of his behaviour to you; that alone is enough to render your life there less pleasant to you; but that is not the worst, for you like all other men must presume you have enemies, who, if they can blaze and aggravate the indiscretion of your bringing this upon you it may perhaps have an effect here to your prejudice, and, by lessening the opinion of your conduct, may help to exclude you from any pretensions you may have at your return.

The gravity of advising is as little pleasant to me as it is to any man in the world, but my kindness to you would not hold, and so it hath broken out upon you.

H. Sydney is just now come from Holland; and the Duke [of York] gone three days since for Scotland. Adieu.

XCV.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, November 22, '79.

Yours of the 30th of October came time enough to my hands to have thanked you for it the last post, but I was then so extream ill of a violent rheum, that it discomposed me beyond the possibility of writing, nor can I yet brag of being quite rid of it, though I am a

good deal better. However I wish you were as well of your more lasting and dangerous infirmity, which I may the better hope, since you will omitt no possible care of yourself that may secure you from a relapse. You may judge how friendly I take your advice concerning myself, since by a former you will have found I complain'd you did not give it me. As to that part which relates to my Lord S. you are so clearly in the right, that for the future I promise you I will not so much as complain to myself; as to the other false and foolish reports which have been spread to my disadvantage, after having sworn by all that is sacred that there is not one word true, I forgive you for suspecting it, since I must confess to have given myself that disadvantage with all my friends of giving easy credit to any reports of my follies, who have been guilty of so many I cannot blame them if they think me capable of more; but of this present stuff not one word was ever said on this side the water, and I will do my best that nothing ever shall which may either give me discredit or my friends disquiet; and therefore, till I am in some real blame, I hope you will endeavour to skreen me from any ill that may happen from untrue accounts of my behaviour here. I write to my L^d Sunderland the tragedy of Mons^r de Pompone,^a though 'tis thought that being nephew to the great Arnauld d' Andilly, and himself being a little suspected for Jansenisme, has contributed something to his present circumstances. All ministers, from highest to the lowest, in all countrys, tremble at such examples, and think of Horace's *aula culmine lubrico*. You who have no place at court, and a good retreat elsewhere, need not have any of these melancholy qualms, *J'en connais des plus miserables*. After these moral reflections in French and Latin, let me in old English tell you how much I am to you and yours, &c.

^a Simon Arnauld, Marquis de Pompone, appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs in 1671, was dismissed 18th November, 1679, through the influence of Louvois, for his delay in communicating to Louis the reply of the electoral court to the proposal of his son for the hand of a Bavarian princess. He was succeeded by Colbert de Croissy: but was re-instated 1691, and died in 1699, universally regretted.

XCVI.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

London, Oct. [Nov.]* ¹²/₂₃th, '79.

I am willing to take this opportunity of Mr. Temple's going over to send you an answer to the letter received last from you. I find you had written upon the same occasion to several other of your friends, and we all concur in the opinion that you take the alarm too hot, and that you suspect some for your competitors who are very far from having any ambition to succeed you. H. Sidney assureth us it never came into his thoughts, and I hope Mr. Churchill, whatever inclination he may have to be a minister, will never give such a price for it as the supplanting a friend. What your reasons are of being so fond of it are unknown to me, and I remember there is no disputing about tastes, so I do not enter into the enquiry: it shall suffice me that you like your post, and it must make me contribute all I can to keep you there. As for what you hear of my censures upon you for your debauchery, I hope you do not believe a word of it. I hope I am not so negligent as quite to forget in what style it is fitt for men to speak of their friends; and I cannot imagine upon what such a lye could be grafted, except it be from my lamenting to some friends upon the occasion of what I writ in my last, that you should be so open in any French company as to expose yourself to any prejudice by the discourse you might have with them, it being so sure they would tell the least thing they would hope to make their court by. I am told too that Mr. Barillon denyeth he ever said anything concerning you, so that your friends agree it would not at all be proper to speak to him concerning it, since it would have no other effect than the making a great matter of that which will not prove so if it be let alone. My condition of health mendeth, but, like most other good things, very slowly

* This letter is by mistake dated October instead of November, as the subject shews it ought to have been.

the weather being so sharp that it helpeth to keep me back. All here send you their complements, and I am ever yours.

XCVII.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, December 16, '79.

Four or five days after Mr. Temple came to Paris he brought me your letter, by which I find you think I took the alarm too hott, and, considering how the matter has since cool'd, I begin to be of your opinion, tho' I am apt to think also that it was my stirring early in the thing that put so speedy an end to it. As for Mon^r Barillon his denial is enough, but that he said it is as true as Gospel, and (but that it is not good to rouse a sleeping lion) if your Lady asked my Lady Lauderdale I will lay a wager she would justify it. For H. Sydney, I never in the least suspected him, but believed him named by Mon^r Barillon without his knowledge: and, not being naturally suspicious, I am as unwilling to have uneasy thoughts of Coll. Churchill, who has been always my friend, but sure I am it was from his master the story first came, which was improved into a story round the town, and if when it came to your ears you think I could possibly suppose you would speak of it but just as you mention you are not so just to me as I deserve: but, even according to your own account, I find you believed it, though it was as false as God is true. I confess to you I was more than ordinary ticklish upon this particular, because I am enough sensible that I am upon my good behaviour, and acting the last scene to try if I can do anything in the world: and, considering that I have taken some pains to get a little credit by my way of living here, (and am vain enough to think I have done so), I was extreemly nettled to find that an impertinent lye had been made, which had like to have removed me before the truth had been examin'd; so that if I was a little passionate I hope you and all my other friends will pardon me. H. Guy writes me word he has sold his place in the bedchamber, and has added some friendly advice, with some very good reason why I

should follow his example; for God's sake consult with him and my Lord Sunderland about this matter. I have written to them both to do the like with you: I protest to you I am now grown humble enough to wish from the bottom of my soul I had my own fortune clear, though I should never increase it, and as the sale of this place would do it, I should sit down very quiet if I were once out of debt, having reflections enough both publick and private to wish I could *tirer mon epingle du jeu*; surely there are as errand fools in England as Mr. Neale, and, why L. How (if his father have left him anything) or my Lord Dorset's friend Jephson, should not bite at such a business I can not well see, and nothing is so easy as getting them accepted. I see no reason for giving you any further trouble at present but my complements to yourself and family.

XCVIII.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Dec $\frac{13}{23}$, '79.

I had yours yesterday, and shall say nothing to the business that hath given you so much disquiet, since your thoughts seem to be calm'd as to that particular; and as for your friends' jealousies that something of the report concerning you might be true, you ought to forgive them, as flowing from their kindness to you, and being acquainted with your natural liberty of speech. Some little breakings out over a bottle of wine might not be thought impossible; but now that is past, and such a report being made will make you the more cautious, and it proving false will make your friends less credulous in anything of this kind for the future that concerneth you. I have spoken with my L^d of Sunderland and H. Guy about your seeking a chapman, and they agree it is very advisable for you, but the difficulty will be to find another Mr. Neale in the world. I very much doubt whether it be possible; besides, at a time that parl^{ts} are put off as ours is to next November, and that nothing is talk'd of but retrenchments, men will shrink and be more cautious than ordinary in laying out their money. The King's leave must first be ask'd,

and then enquiry must be made for a proper coxcomb to treat with, though beforehand I wish you were sure of one that might be 500*l.* less a fool than Mr. Neale, for all your friends would advise you to close with him. S^r H. Capel doth not leave the Admiralty,^a so that you have no prospect there, and indeed I would not have you think of anything else in particular, but if you could make this bargain you would be at present ease; as long as you stay where you are you would not be displeased, and whenever you return you will either get something, or if the thoughts you seem to have now have taken any root in you, you will not think yourself undone by the disappointment. I may by another opportunity say more to you on this subject; in the mean time I kiss your hands. Adieu.

Pray say something for me to my Lady Scroope.^b

XCIX.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, Decr. 26, '79.

There is nothing so natural as for men to desire their friends should have a better opinion of them than they deserve: so that I am in pain you should not only be convinced that I am wiser here than I ever was before, but that I shall be so at my return to England, having had time to cool my head and think a little, and truly I am extreamly deceived in myself if (my place sold) I should have philosophy enough very well to support the disappointment of ever having another. In the mean time, as to the disposal of that I have, I must disagree in y^r method of asking the King's leave first, and then seeking a chapman; for if such a fool be not found I only shew my master I have a mind to leave him, and want only power,

^a But he, with Lords Russell and Cavendish, left the council in the next month.

^b Lady Scroope was daughter of Sir Robert Carr of Sleaford, Linc. and widow of Sir Adrian Scroope. Evelyn mentions her (13 Oct. 1683) as "my Lady Scroope, the great witte." She died in the autumn of 1685. See also ante, p. 101, note ^a.

which is no complement to any prince; on the other side, a fool once found, there cannot be so great a one but will be accepted of; therefore that is the business I do most earnestly recommend to my friends, but still I submit to your better judgements if I am thought in the wrong. The prorogation of the parl^t is the greatest news here, and, though we have no coffee houses, we do not want politicians that think they can make very probable reflections. I will trouble you with none of mine, nor with any thing farther but my complements to all your family and wishing you a merry Christmas. Adieu, dear brother.

C.

SAME to SAME.

St. Germain, Jan^y 16, '79-80.

I am so busy at a wedding that it is no small complement to you that I leave it rather than deferr till another post the thanking you for yours of the 29th of December, and, since it is your opinion as well as mine that my fool be found before my master be told I am willing to leave him, if that be not already done, I desire our method may take place of Harry Guy's, which I think is hard to be defended upon this occasion. For the continuance of my philosophy, I do no more doubt it than I do that everybody will have need of a good stock. I find that is to be all ready money, and therefore I will make a great hoard of that, though I never could of the other; and as it has been hitherto my fault, so I doubt it will be now my fate, for I am sure I am of the weather side of the exchequer; but that way of calculating in these needy times will not serve my turn, for the needy servant of a needy master can not go far in this country; but hitherto I thank God I have done well enough, and shall do so on, if any reasonable punctuality be observed to me; but I will state this case more exactly both to yourself and my other friends another time. My nephew's coming over is the very best news I have heard since he went hence; his chamber shall be ready and clean sheets,

with a promise to you that his priveledges in my house shall be only of that kind, and I will never force upon him any of those cruel enemys that come out of the cellar; but, as I know every young man must have a vice, I will not curb him in his inclinations to the sex; and be no otherwise a spy upon him or them, but to examine that all his tackling be sound, and to find good workmen to repair the breaches that may unfortunately happen; and truly I think I owe so much to the stallion of our family, abstracted from the personal kindness I have for him; and since he will come, pray let him not loyter too long at London, but come and take his share of the carnival at Paris. I send you no news, since you have the priviledge of seeing all Mr. Secretary's letters; but, to conclude with the philosophy I am setting up for, I assure you that in this glorious day of this mighty court I see very few men with whom a wise man would change the twenty-four hours round the year; I do not think you have a much better prospect of your court, so that with truth as well as with Latin let me conclude:

Beatus ille, qui procul negotijs,
Ut prisca gens mortalium, etc.

Hor. Ep. II. 1.

My compliments to your family most humbly.

CI.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Jan. ²/₁₈, '79-80.

I do not know what you have done to y^r nephew, but he is full of kindness for you, and presumeth much upon yours, which maketh him not only willing to go from hence, but impatient till he is with you, and I do with less difficulty comply with him since the parl^t is put off, which would have been an entertainment of some use as well as pleasure to him. I hope that when he is left to himself without the incumbrance of a governour, he will make a good use of that liberty, and think himself so much the more obliged to improve, to avoid miscarrying under his own conduct; though I presume he

will not think fitt to insist so much upon his right to dispose of himself as not to give it up to you whenever you will be so kind as to advise him. Our world here is so over-run with the politicks, the fools' heads so heated, and the knaves so busy, that a wasp's nest is a quieter place to sleep in than this town is to live in, which maketh me so weary of it that you must not wonder if you hear that, notwithstanding my passion for London, that hath been little inferiour to yours for Paris, I go very early this spring into the country,^a where, besides other invitations, I shall have that of seeing my small works at Rufford, having yet only had the pleasure of disbursing for them. I confess I dream of the country, as men do of small beer when they are in a fever, and at this time poor old Rufford with all its wrinkles hath more charms for me than any thing London can shew me. How long Paris will keep you in love with it I do not know, but I am mistaken if at last Barroughby doth not get the better of it. My uncle Packington is lately dead, but whether you or your nephew will think fit at this distance to mourn for him is left to your better judgements. I am for ever yours.

. CII.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, Jan. 31, 1688.

Though my Lord Eland tells me he sent you word last post of his safe arrival, I think myself bound to acknowledge the receipt of him into my hands as a chattell you set some value upon. I do assure you I will make it my business to return him as safe and sound as I receive him, and he shall want nothing that's good that I can help him to, even councill itself if it be needful, which I fancy I can give pretty well, though I was never very good at taking it. What I can best answer for, is giving him good example, such a

^a Lords Halifax and Essex, finding that they had no part in the King's confidence or the Duke's, but were other men's dupes and did other men's work, and that no measures would be taken for satisfying and uniting the nation, would have no more concern in public affairs. Essex resigned, and was succeeded by Hyde (afterwards Earl of Rochester), and Lord Halifax retired to Rufford. (Ralph, i. 488.)

reformation there is in my way of living since I saw you. If my cousin Thynne's intelligence be right, this will find you with Sir William Coventry, in which case I am sure you cannot be so hard-hearted as not to let me wish myself some days with you, having vanity enough to think that I should make no ill third by a thousand things I could tell you of this place. Your retreat to Rufford I do not only approve of, but envy more than all the places and dignities any court upon earth can give; and, since you mention Barroughby, I do assure you upon all the asseverations any man can make, had either my prudence or my fortune been such as to have put me in a condition of living there in any reasonable modest plenty, no earthly temptation should ever call me ten miles on this side it to make any considerable stay; for, though I put a good face upon my present condition, my heart prefers what I tell you to such a degree as to be often troubled I cannot put it in execution, and to see so little likelihood that I ever shall. Whether I owe this to the shame of having often cross'd my own fortune, or to the weariness of not mending it by so long struggling in the world, or whether there may not be somewhat in our blood that affects ease and quiet, I will not determine; but I can answer that all my first morning thoughts are vain wishes to be a country gentleman, for which I see a thousand reasons in both courts every day of my life. You see I make you my confessour, this new trust being an answer for that you have put in me, which I take for so great a kindness that I must again thank you for it, assuring you that it was impossible for you to have had a kinder brother or an humbler servant than y^{rs} &c. H. S.

CIII.

SAME to SAME.

St. Germain, Feb. 9, 1779-80.

As well by your son's calculation as by my cousin Thynne's letters, this is likelier to find you in the country than in town, where I should not interrupt your repose, but that I have a new

title to write more frequently since my chief is under my charge, of whose being well I ought sometimes to acquaint you, for I think he is himself no great lover of writing as yet, and so may omit it. I find him so much improved by his short journey into England that if he can go on at the same rate there is nothing that may not be hoped of one who is not yet nineteen. I assure you he is very well liked wherever I carry him, and good judges think as well of him as yourself can desire. Mon^r Colbert, our new secretary, is return'd, and without your orders I have made him your complements, in which I suppose you will not disavow me, since it was after he had enquired very kindly after you.

I am grown such a pillar at Charenton, that very grave people, looking upon me as such, do often speak to me to prefer Protestant servants in England; and I am now (by as worthy people as I think any are) desired to write to prefer a well bred woman that would serve a child as half maid and half governess. I never saw her, but am assured she is very proper for such an employment, and has a good likely person. Now, considering that your eldest daughter never could be brought to learn French, if you will have your younger differ with her in that point, this might be no improper matter for her. To deal plainly with you, they are very considerable people that recommend her, and have heard enough of you and your family rather to wish her there than anywhere else, thinking you a most admirable Protestant, y^r name being famous ever since the test. I have laid this affair before you, you may do in it what you please; but pray let me know your mind in your next.

Mr. Sydney's negociation in Holland has given great dissatisfaction here, but how it will be resented does not yet appear; however, all the officers that are here whose men are in Flanders are sent to their commands, and the Mareschal d'Humieres is said to have orders to take Charlemont if not rendered on the 28th instant, though the 13th article of the treaty at Nimeguen does plainly enough give time till the 28th of April.

The poysoning matters which have made so much noise go not

on so fast as was thought; whether it be because so great people are engaged^a or because proofs are wanting to make out so much as was suspected I will not venture to decide, but both are said, according to the different inclinations of men who handle that argument. These are strange things to the calm thoughts of a happy man at Rufford. You that are in port pity those that are in storms, and would never put to sea again if once well on shore. This is so true that my being most faithfully yours cannot be truer. Adieu.

CIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Rufford, $\frac{2}{12}$ Feb. '79-80.

I am once more got to my old tenement, which I had not seen since I had given order to renew and repair it. It looketh now somewhat better then when you was last here; and, besides the charms of your native soil, it hath something more to recommend itself to your kindness than when it was so mixt with the old ruins of the abby that it look'd like a medley of superstition and sacrilege, and, though I have still left some decay'd part of old building, yet there are none of the rags of Rome remaining. It is now all heresy, which in my mind looketh pretty well, and I have at least as much reverence for it now as I had when it was encumbered with those sanctified ruins. In short, with all the faults that belong to such a mishapen building patch'd up at so many several times, and notwithstanding the forest hath not its best cloaths at this time of the year, I find something here which pleaseth me, whether it be the general disease of loving home, or whether for the sake of variety,

^a The Marquise de Brinvilliers, who poisoned her father, two brothers, and a sister, was the first case clearly proved; she was beheaded and then burnt. She was charged also with committing the same crime on a number of other individuals totally unconnected with her. The Duchess of Bouillon, the youngest of Mazarin's nieces, was accused, but established her innocence. The famous Countess de Soissons on being interrogated flew from Paris and took refuge at Madrid. The cases of the Duke of Luxembourg and his sister are mentioned afterwards, p. 154.

since I have been so long absent as to make my own house a new thing to me, or by comparing it to other places where one is less at ease, I will not determine ; the best reason I can give is, that I grow every day fitter for a coal fire and a country parlour, being come now to the worst part of my elder brothership in having so much a greater share of years than you that it may make amends for the inequality of the division in other respects. The greatest pleasure I have now to hope for dependeth much upon the good advice you will give your nephew, who never shall have any injunctions from me but such as he ought for his own sake to impose upon himself. I think him so capable of succeeding well in the world that it is pity he should miscarry by a wrong setting out at first; therefore pray let us have a care of his launching, for there is the greatest danger for young men in this age. I bid Gosling acquaint you with the particulars, by which I suppose you will not be dissatisfy'd with my part. I have great reason to be pleased with your kindness to him, but you have drawn an unnecessary incumbrance upon yourself by taking him into your house. Pray make him no complements that give you any trouble, and therefore let him be in some lodging near you, where he may be enough under your eye without giving you the inconvenience of an inmate. It may be a real kindness to inform him sometimes of such things as pass through your hands as are not great secrets, and yet may give him a taste and quicken his appetite to know what passeth in the world. He promised me to read books of treaties and negotiations, in which you may not only encourage but direct him very much to his advantage. It is a great matter for a growing man to apply himself to read what may be of some use, which may be done with as much pleasure at least as in loosing time upon *nouvelles* and *entretiens*, things only fit for young fellows and their wenches to read till the hour of assignation cometh for a more substantial entertainment. You may believe I do not disapprove your raptures in commendation of a retired life, but I will not betray you so far as to incourage you to go beyond the bare speculation till your circum-

stances are better fitted to put your philosophy in practice. Your company would not have been unwelcome at S^r W^m Coventryes, where we could have entertain'd you a little of things that have pass'd in our world, to make you a return to the account you would have given us of France, but amongst the other disadvantages of life it ever happeneth that friends are separated when at the same time we are crowded by our enemies; or, which is almost as bad, by those who are tedious, or at the best indifferent. The D. of Newcastle is just coming in, so I take my leave. Yours, &c.

CV.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, Feb. 24, 1679-80, N. S.

I have yours of the 2^d from Rufford, and find by it that you in the country and I in the court have pretty near the same reflections, and, whatever difference has been hitherto, either in our constitutions or our methods of life, the time is drawing near that we shall both agree that all is vanity, and, though this be ever equally true, yet we will learn it from no book but our experience, which at long run never fails a man of any common sense. I cannot deny but these notions are more suitable to your circumstances than mine, who have not enough increased my talent to sit down with it with comfort; yet, considering I am a single man, and grow every day to desire fewer things, I will hope for the future less will serve my turn than I ever thought I could possibly be contented with, and yet by the inclosed from Mr. Turner you will find that I have a star that envys me even that little which I thought my surest stake, and that I may be sure to be the unluckiest man breathing, men start up to pick quarrels with an estate which has been so long in the quiet possession of our family. How I am to defend myself in this attack I am wholly to learn from you, for I never had any writings concerning Barroughby but what I put into your hands; but this

sort of dispute is not so much how it came to me, as how it came to you, and how first fixed in our family. I think your kindness to me is argument enough for you to bestir yourself in this matter, but were it not your own concern would lead to my assistance, since the probability of its returning to your children or yourself is so great; for, place at court once sold, I will clear it never to load it more, being so sensible of the sad condition of a man in debt, that I think it is better to be a dog out of debt. As for my chief, the difficulties you make of his being in my house I do almost take ill, it being so far from an inconvenience to me, that some less welcome guest would seise upon his chamber if he did not possess it; besides, in this country it would look so oddly not to lodge so near a relation, that it were a scandal more insupportable than the trouble of any friend as impertinent as he is far from being so, for upon my faith he is the easiest creature to live with that ever I met with, and has no faults but what become his age, and are more allowable than blamable, for what is gravity at fifty, is dullness at nineteen. Before you had desired me I had a little instructed him in the kind you order'd, and had given him a book of all the treaties our nation has with others, upon which I read him small lectures to shew upon what terms his country is with others. I find him attentive enough, and more than generally young people are to things of that kind, nor do I find him at all disposed to those kind of books you mention of *nouvell's* and other *entretiens* of folly and levity, so that I doubt not but all will do very well in time, especially using him like a man as he is, and not giving him too frequent or too rough rebukes as if he were not yet come to years of discretion. He tells me he writes to you by your own order an account of all the poysoning doings here, which will not be soon ended, for the King has commanded all persons concern'd should be immediately tryed, that all may be over before Ma^d La Dauphine comes. On Monday next he and his whole court go to meet her at Vitry, where she will be on Wednesday sevensnight. I will no longer discompose the *mollia tempora* you enjoy, but conclude with the assurances due to you from y^{rs} &c.

CVI.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Feb. 28, '79-80, N. S.

Though it be foul play to disturb a country gentleman two posts together, I cannot forbear writing to you concerning a thing if once out of my power you may possibly reproach me hereafter, the not offering you a proposal which you may see advantageous to somebody else by my assistance, and therefore I will tell you the thing as it is; you have time enough to ruminate upon it, and your decision shall be mine, assuring yourself that I am the last man living that can have any design of this nature but what is yours; having given you long and sufficient proofs that I never enter'd further into the concerns of your domesticks and family than to give them my most unfeigned good wishes. This is a long preamble, but before I enter into [the] matter, I must add that my nephew knows nothing of this, it being my part, for my own sake, to avoid the possibility of future reproach from you, to tell you the thing plainly. My great assiduity at Charenton has gain'd me a general acquaintance and kindness amongst the Huguenots, and, as generally the women are most pleased with such a proceeding, I have got into the friendship of the gravest. They all think themselves unhappy by being of a perswasion different from the government, apprehending daily greater calamitys than they yet lye under, that most of them are disposed to marry their children rather into England and Holland than in France; amongst this number there is one who will give two hundred thousand crowns down, paid at London and in English crowns, viz. 25,000 pounds, with a very pretty daughter, as modestly bred as I have ever seen, and where there is as little exceptions either to the person or family as is possible, and she has given me full authority to look her out a man of quality in England (without further restriction than assuring me there is but one in France to whose proposals she would hearken, and that does not appear likely,) so that my negotiation is most likely to take place. To my own knowledge (pray speak not of this,) my

L^d and L^y Sunderland have had thoughts ever since their embassy of having this young woman for my L^d Spencer, but whether they think her too old, (being just fourteen), or whether dancing on the high rope they hope for a better fortune in England, or whether they keep him for some minister's daughter in case of change to buy their own interest, I will not guess; but I do not find that they do at present think of it, but may be the properest people in the world for you to enquire of the wealth or condition of the family, or if you hearken at all towards this, you may write to Mons^r de Ruvigny (who has the greatest kindness and value for you imaginable), or any body else whom you please; always remembering that it must be after a manner of enquiry, not as if the thing was ever proposed to you by the persons concerned, for they dream no more of it than you do before the receipt of this. Thus you have the matter before you, upon which I make no comments, either pro or con., my business being only, as I told you, that if I propose it to any other man of quality you may not complain of my not giving you the preference, but allow that I have perform'd the part both of a brother and of a friend.

I think there is nothing left more to be said upon this subject, but to tell you the name of this young creature, who is [Esther] daughter to the Marquis de Governette, a gentleman of a very ancient family and a most plentiful fortune in Dauphine.^a I hear from London that you have sent for your family, to whom if you make my complements I will release you from any further trouble at present, there being no more news here than at Olerton,^b this being as errand a village, now the King and Court are gone to Chalons. Adieu.

^a See other letters in 1684, post.

^b The seat of the Earl at Rufford is near the village of Ollerton.

CVII.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Rufford, Feb. 20, '79-80.

March 2,

I am glad to find that your nephew groweth in your opinion. He is now at the true age of forming himself, and with your assistance and encouragement, I think in the best place for doing it; therefore I hope he will intend it, and think it worth his pains to go about it. I am sure he hath a great belief of y^r kindness, and that will give you the power of perswading when there is occasion for it; so that I rely very much upon you in all that concerneth him. This is somewhat a greater trust than that of leaving it to you to make my complements wherever you think it necessary, as indeed it was to Mr. Colbert upon such an occasion. I have proposed your demoiselle to my wife, and I find her not averse to taking her, only she, having no exceptions to the servants she hath, cannot put any away without a fault, only to make room, a method, though often used in courts, not so allowable in private families. Upon the first change I will put my wife in mind again, and if your woman is not otherwise disposed she may come; if she is, there is no hurt done. In the meantime my credit with the French Protestants I owe wholly to you; your zeal being so notorious that it throweth a lustre upon all your poor relations. It is enough to be akin to a man that goeth twice a day to Charenton. Heaven reward you for giving such countenance to the Gospel! Sure when you come home and find my Lady Scroope return'd from hearing 4 masses in a morning at Nostre Dame you are both very merry; for I take it to be an equal laughing match between you about your respective devotions. Pray make her my complements, and let this be one of them. We watch here to know how poysoning goeth on at Paris, thinking it may concern us in time, since we are likely to receive hereafter that with other fashions. Methinks you should not lose this opportunity of retrenching your table, you being a man of

too much importance to be out of the danger of ratsbane. These things maketh our forest brains turn round; we are apt to think some new evil spirits are broke loose into the world to confound it. Our hope is that Mr. Savile, being a Nottinghamshire man, and once burgess of Newark, will by his influence secure us from the calamities that threaten the rest of mankind; if you do we shall be bound to pray for your worship, and so I leave you.

CVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Rufford, March $\frac{11}{11}$, '79-80.

To receive two letters in so short a time from a publick minister, ought to be very kindly taken by a country gentleman, and in gratitude I must in the first place answer that which concerneth you, which is about the suit commenced, or rather renewed, against you. From what pass'd formerly in it, I hope you are not in any danger, but you may be sure that no care shall be wanting to do all that is possible to make a defence, if it should be necessary, which I can hardly think it will be, considering it cometh from the same hand, Mr. Meredith, who upon enquiry proves to be a barber in Gray's Inn Lane, but I cannot yet discover upon what grounds he sueth, or whether for himself or somebody that thinketh fit to make use of his obscure name, rather than appear in it themselves. I shall not neglect all means of informing myself more particularly, and that there might be the more time for making enquirys, I got the tryal put off till the next assizes, upon the allegation of your being absent upon the K^s employment. I did not know but you might possibly have some papers relating to Barroughby, which might have been of use, but it was out of abundant caution, for I hope that which pass'd last time upon the same business will be a sufficient direction what to do in it now. Y^r aversion to the remaining in debt must needs produce good effects, for in these cases resolving strongly goeth a great way. Men will find out some way or other

of doing whatever they have a very great mind to, and I think the parting with your place is none of the worst expedients, but you cannot reasonably expect at this time Mr. Neale's rate for it. I see your kindness to your nephew maketh you think his being in the house with you no incumbrance, so that you are to be left to do what you will in it. I come now to your second letter, which is upon a very kind subject, there being nothing I have in my prospect to please me so much as the settling your nephew to his own satisfaction and the advantage of our family. The proposal you make is in this respect tempting, that by furnishing me with a considerable sum in present I may be enabled to give a large and liberal allowance, without which a young man married in this age liveth with such straitness that it begetteth uneasiness and dissatisfaction, and from thence flow a thousand inconveniences, of which we have almost as many examples as there are marriages, whilst the father is living ; but on the other side, there are many objections to be made, as first the alliance, though very honourable, is of no manner of use or support to an English family. Then their way of treating about portions is very different from ours ; the husband generally hath only the use, and the principal is to go to the children. But more than all this, in the age we live in, and considering our sky looketh very changeable, and that we do not know what kind of weather we may have, the argument of alliance may grow much stronger, and it may so happen that in a shuffling and a distracted time, your nephew may by a wise and reasonable choice, by a thing well timed, do a great deal towards the preservation of his family, if the times be such as to require it. I confess this amongst other arguments hath ever made me the less pressing upon him to marry, and, though it might be more convenient for me at present that he should bring me a portion, yet in my own thoughts I give the preference to that method which may be most advantagious to him and his family. These considerations make me less earnest to embrace your proposal. Indeed, if Harry himself had such a liking to the person as might make him wish for my approbation, it would have great weight with

me; but you saying he knoweth nothing what you write, I take him to be wholly unconcerned. In the mean time the thing is so fair, as it is represented to you, that before one would take an absolute resolution it deserveth this enquiry, which you may easily make by the grave acquaintance you mention, viz. to know of her in generall that if you can find her a man of quality for her young woman not to be refused, how much precisely the portion will be, in what manner paid, what settlements and allowances according to our English way of treating would be expected; the knowing these things can do no hurt, and nobody being named there is no engagement upon us, but we have liberty to choose, and time to think about it. I have heard some of our friends had thoughts of a French match, but till you told me, I did not know it was this. I need not make you any complements upon this occasion, let it be enough that I assure you I am satisfied you will never omitt the opportunitys of doing kind things, either to me or your family. I must now give you a friendly advertisement, and, though you may think it a little thing, you must not laugh at me. I hear by accident that you write into England with some freedom of a lady you converse with, and you are so happy in your writing talent that things are repeated and whisper'd for secrets to so many that they will cease to be so at last; but you will remember that the more we deserve jests, the less we bear them, and the more they are commended, so much more they are resented. Upon recollection you must needs understand me, and so I leave it with you. I have make this long enough for a country letter, and therefore it is time to release you, and not disturb your more serious cares for Christendome.

My wife and daughter are very much your servants.

CIX.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, March 23, 1700, N. S.

After the great winds had kept us almost a fortnight from hearing from England, two letters of yours dropt in yesterday together.

The first is rather an answer to one of mine than requiring any other from me than my thanks for it, the other is your opinion concerning the matter I proposed in relation to your son. As I told you in my first mentioning it that my business was only to tell you matter of fact, and not to descant upon it, I shall keep to that method and leave you to your own resolutions; only, to justify the better the reason I had at least to tell you of it, I cannot forbear acquainting you that a week ago, being with old Ruvigny, he ask'd me why I did not make use of my friendship with the mother to procure the daughter for my nephew, he understanding she would be a better match than any he could at present have in England; this he told me meerly as his own opinion in point of discourse, or else I should have thought the thing sought, and he made the instrument of it, but I am convinced that was not the case. Amongst the rest of your objections, one I thought I had sufficiently clear'd in telling you that the 25,000*l.* would be paid at London, and submit to the English laws, which they are well informed in, and are content the money should be a *fonds perdu*, and the wife have no further interest in it, or disposal of it, either to her children or anybody else. For your son's liking her, this sort of conference betwixt you and I is so wholly unknown to him that this kind of liking is I believe not enter'd into his head, but I have carry'd him thither with me sometimes, and he thinks her a very pretty woman, as she really is, and if for your convenience it should ever take a method towards marriage, I am of opinion he would not wave it: however I have been very tender of letting him in the least suspect what passes betwixt you and I in this matter; if you would have me sift him, with what cautions and limitations you please, your next letter may send me your directions, as well as any other commands for me here, for when I am with his M. X^{tian} Ma^{ty} at Dunkirk I intend to get leave to make a step to London, and it shall go hard but I will make one to Rufford, and will come so well inform'd in the particular of this gentlewoman that I will not be ignorant of any of the enquirys you have advised me to make. As for the other demoiselle, whom I would prefer to an humbler condition in your family, your

answer is obliging to her, and just to your present domesticks, but if any remove should make room for her, you would much oblige us poor folks at Charendon, and me as a particular pillar of that place. For my lawsuit, I confess I am easily frighted with things of that nature, being so little used to them; but from the diligent defence you intend to make for me, and from the despicableness of my antagonist, I shall learn to take a little heart, and not be terrify'd with the noise of a barber's bason. My Lord Eland sent you an account of the poysoning affairs, in which you seem'd more alarm'd in your forest than we in a great city used to wonders. Since the burning of Mad. Voisin,^a two women and a priest have been taken, whom it had been convenient to have confronted with her, but it is too late. During this King's late absence the court where things of this nature are try'd sat but twice a week; they have now orders to sit every day, so that we expect a speedy end of that whole business, which is not like to last so long as your plot has done at London. You will expect I should not conclude without saying something of our new Dauphine,^b who came to St. Germain's on Monday last. She is more famed for wit and civility than for beauty, though I think she has enough of that, either for a good wife or a prudent princess. Your son is very well, and well pleased here, and I am sure I am very well pleased with him upon all accounts; if he wants anything it is what he will not fail to have, a little more age: but wit and sense he has as much as his skull will hold. I have not yet been able to perswade him to go to St. Germain's, but on Monday he has promis'd to go with me to my audience, and when once I have embark'd him, I doubt not that he will find his own way thither. My Lady Scroope returns you her complements, and lets you know that in one of her sermons she has been told that St. Benoist sung in his mother's belly, of which she recommends the

^a Mad. la Voisin, with the priest Le Sage, and a person taking the name of La Vigoureux, made a regular trade of selling poisons, and among them the "powder of succession," to all who demanded them.

^b Maria Anna, daughter of Ferdinand Maria, Elector of Bavaria, married at the age of 20, on 7 March, 1680, N. S., and died 20th April, 1690.

belief to you, for it is very certain. If that be the lady you mean of whom I have wrote in a stile unbecoming our friendship, I do not well remember that I have so much as ever named her in any of my letters, unless only to Mr. Hyde, with whom I confess I have used a familiar stile concerning her for many years, but if he have play'd the blab, I will give him no more occasion for it, but change the habit I had of writing to him otherwise than to anybody-else, which is but just I should do, for we have lived very friendly together. My complements at Rufford, and to all Newark men that come thither, shall conclude this. Adieu, dear brother.

CX.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

Rufford, March 29, '80.
April 8,

Your last was more than ordinarily welcome to me, by holding out some possibility of seeing you if you come into England. I will not let myself hope it too much, for fear of being disappointed, knowing how many excuses a man in your circumstances may have for not taking such a journey. If the charms of your native soil can overcome those difficulties I shall be very glad of it, and old Rufford will put on her very best looks to receive you; but if it should so happen that you cannot, without great inconvenience, spare time for so long a visit, I will meet you half way, that after so long an absence I may at least have some few hours' talk with you. We shall then have opportunity to discourse fully about the matter you proposed; so that in the meantime it will be of no use to say any thing concerning it to your nephew, or for me to give any farther opinion in it. I need not repeat to you that all possible care shall be taken for the defence of your tenement; but in order to it, if it cometh to a tryal, some writings must be produced; and Talbot affirmeth that Mr. Perkins, the last time this was in dispute, delivered to him some deeds which were carry'd to the assizes, to be produced if there had been occasion; and that he, when he had them, gave them into your own hands, and he thinketh you put them into a

cabinet or drawer in your house in King Street. You will do well to recollect y^rself, and if you remember where they are, to give order they may be given out when they are called for. I see you are a very constant man to your nephew, since you do not think fit to alter your stile of him; in gratitude to you he ought to make good the character you give of him, and I hope he will do so. I believe he is more apt to be faulty in little circumstances than in great ones, and therefore he must be put in mind that there is a necessary subjection to forms which young men are to submit to; and at the same time it may be very reasonable to laugh at them, it is yet more so to practice them. Little words and motions of respect and civility do often recommend a man more to the company than the knowledge of all the liberall sciences; but the truth is, all good sense hath something of the clown in it, and therefore though it is not to be suppressed it must be soften'd so as to comply with that great beast the world, which is too strong for any man, though never so much in the right, to go to cuffs with. You guess right both of the lady and the friend you correspond with. I conclude what you write is shew'd by way of applause, and not out of ill meaning, therefore you are to use reasonable caution, but not to take any other notice of it. Wife and daughter kiss your hands, and I am *vous pouvez croire*.

CXI.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Paris, April 24, '80, N. S.

Having been 4 or 5 days last week at St Germain's about business, I found at my return our young gentleman not very well, but he will himself tell you by this poste that all is in good order again, so that I shall not need entertain you upon that subject, no more than upon another that concerns him, which you are willing to put off any further discourse of till we meet, which will not be so soon as I hoped; for, though I have already his Maj^{ty's} permission to make a step for a month into England, yet I think it not for his service I

should leave this station till towards the end of June, for reasons both himself and his ministers will I am sure allow of, nor should I be without blame if I did otherwise.

As for the box of writings Mr. Talbot affirms to have given me, it was I think only the remainder of some I had formerly given you, and did rather shew the bargain made betwixt you and my mother, than gave any account how Barroughby came into our family, which must be now the question; and may I should think be very well justified by the prescription of above a hundred years, which was ever a better plea than can be against it, but so strengthened by the Act of the 21 of King James, that, instead of being thus in the dark with our barber, I can give no reason why we do not begin with him with a bill in Chancery, which, according to my small skill in matters of this kind, I should think most advisable, and is certainly practicable in cases where a rogue comes to dispute an ancient possession, without knowing why or wherefore. The alarum we have formerly had that the parties concerned are Irish, and the name of a barber being used, may give good occasion for us to guess they are some of the prudent honest Roman Catholicks that nation is so full of, and that were so deserving his late Maj^{ty's} bounty in the times we think they obtained the impertinent title they pretend by. But I would fain see the bottom of the business one way or the other, and it shall go hard but I will. In order to it, I am resolved Mr. Meredith shall be the first of his trade that shall shave me at my arrivall at London. Nor will I omitt any other such notable stratagem to inform myself of the state of the case. If I think I shall not be time enough at London I will send the key of my cabinet over to Robson to look [out] the box you mention, but that it can be of no use I dare confidentially affirm. All the world has been so devout here the last week that they are not yet returned to sinning enough to make any news, so that I can send you none. The Spaniards make daily complaints of the French infractions upon the peace; but they have not those arguments that can alone relieve them, so that patience is all the remedy I can yet see pos-

sible. My Lord Eland has already wrote to you about seeing Flanders whilst I am in England. Your orders in that matter we dayly expect. My complements to the ladies is all I have further to add, saving that I am to your L^dsp *tout ce qu'on peut être*.

CXII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, April 24, '80.
May 4,

Yours by this post was very welcome to me in curing the fears I had for Harry, which were raised from the knowledge I have of his constitution being, like mine, hot, and apt to take more fire than ordinary upon any distemper. I think it will be adviseable for him to rest a little after it in some place out of Paris, at his own choice, before he taketh any long journey. Besides, by the complexion of things, one can hardly be secure that Flanders will be a quiet place this summer; and then it would be an unpleasant progress. I am sorry you have put back my hopes of seeing you; but however your friends may be disappointed by it you do well to stay longer upon the grounds you mention. Concerning your writings, I believe your memory may fail you after such a distance of time; therefore the surest way is to send your key over to Mr. Robson, there being something to be done next term, in w^{ch} the deeds found in your cabinet may perhaps be of use. It is still a mystery what this barber goeth upon, though I have employed some to sound him, and am not quite out of hopes but we may get more light than we have yet in this matter. But I wonder you are so ready to trust your throat with a man that would make such a gash in your estate, though I hope he will only be able to shew his good will towards it.

The talk goeth here that Flanders is to be sold, but I hardly believe it, not that the Spaniards would not part with it, but that France will not give money for what they may have without it. If

it should be either given or sold, I think it a wise piece of revenge of Spain upon those who would not preserve it, though more nearly concerned. I forget I am at Rufford, as ill a clymate for politicks as for melons. Upon recollection I leave you to your state contemplations, and am ever yours.

CXIII.

H. SAVILE to the Marquess of HALIFAX.^a

Paris, May 18, '80.

I find by your last that our young gentleman's progress towards Flanders has not your approbation, to which he yields a very laudable submission, and proposes for the river Loire, since that is the station you allow him: I hope I shall have him here again, for I assure you we love one another well enough to desire and deserve to be together; but I talk of England it may be more briskly than belongs to me, for I know not how the clouds that are gathering in Flanders may influence the motions of so considerable a person as myself, but if all be quiet, I shall be at London about the middle of June; but of this matter I shall be better able to judge when I have been a little at Fontainebleau, where I go to-morrow. I have sent the key of my cabinet to Tho. Robson, by S^r R. Mason, and I believe (if I have any such box) it will be with you as soon as this

^a Sir Leoline Jenkins writing from Whitehall, 13 (*i. e.* 23) May, 1680, informed Savile of the renewed illness of the King, saying:—"There arrived here from Windsor this day about three a messenger to command the attendance of two or three of the King's physicians upon his Ma^{tie}, who was seized this forenoon with a fitt of his ague and tooke his bed upon it at 12; this the messenger sayes: but we have no newes of any such thing from any other of the court. His Ma^{tie} walked abroad this morning; the newes of his being ill flies about like lightning, which makes me give you this trouble, for by that time it will have reached you it will be grown to some prodigious story or other! I beseech God to bless y^e King with health and long life, and that it may not be in the power of these restless spirits to disturbe him." The apprehension for the King's safety soon passed away, and Sir Leoline told Savile on the 17th (*i. e.* 27th) of May:—"I rejoyce to be able to give you y^e news of his Ma^{tie} having escaped his fitts on Saturday and yesterday. His physitions have no apprehension of y^e returne of his ague. The parlt was prorogued this day to the 1st July." (Secretary Jenkins's Letter-book. MSS. State Paper Office.)

letter. God send us good luck! but if my past stars are to continue my future ones, I shall lose my land to the barber, or by an earthquake, for it is decreed I shall not be the master of any. I thought I had done pretty well towards the disposal of it myself; but fortune, taking notice of my late good husbandry, and fearing the good effects of it, will I believe take some other way to secure me from being loaded with acres.

The Duke of Luxembourg is released from the Bastile, having pass'd the tryal of the *chambre ardente*, where he is found innocent,^a though Le Sage swore against him all he had accused him of, but for want of further witness he was by the forms of law acquitted, though it be left to every body's particular opinion who spoke truth, the Doctor or the Duke; he is now gone to a house he has in Champagne, where he is not to stir but as the Court shall direct him, where they are pretty good at forgetting men who are absent; two of his servants are condemned to the gallies, and thus ends this mighty matter; his sister the Princess of Fingery has been also examined and is acquitted.

I am in great hopes to contrive my matters so as to catch S^r W^m Coventry at Rufford in his return from the North. Some few days there with you two I hope would be gratefull to us all; how much I desire it you shall see by my endeavours to compass it. My most humble service to your ladies, and so I leave you to your poor forest, where my L^d Newcastle has spoilt your fine walks; I wish you had such as I shall have at Fontainbleau. Adieu.

^a The charge was of having attempted to destroy a person who had incurred his displeasure; and, that failing, associating with sorcerers, or frequenting fortune-tellers. His trial was protracted for fourteen months, during which he was debarred the use of pen and ink, and was from time to time brought up before the *chambre ardente*, interrogated and confronted with witnesses, but nothing was proved except that he had once seen the priest Le Sage, and for idle curiosity asked him to draw the horoscopes of various persons. On the trial Le Sage declared that Luxembourg had made application to Satan to destroy a girl Dupin, with whom some concealed papers were found; and that Le Sage and his companions by the Duke's orders had assassinated her, cut her in quarters, and thrown her into the Seine: but the evidence was shown to be forged, and Luxembourg was acquitted 14 May, 1680. Bonard, his intendant, was condemned to the gallies.

CXIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, May 31, '80.
June 10,

Your last filled me with the expectation of seeing you ere long, but by the letters from London my hopes are blasted, it being determined it seemeth, for reasons of state, that you are for the present to remain where you are; in the mean time you are a man of that importance, that the news both at home and from abroad speaketh of your being recall'd, and a successor named, with as much formality as if there was something in it. One piece of intelligence I confess I am not a little pleased with, which is, that upon a contest you had with his Christian Majesty (we will suppose it was for the honour of England or the advancement of the Protestant religion) he thought fit to give you a cuff on the ear. This was discoursed amongst the most sober newsmongers of St. James's Park, as a real truth, and you cannot imagine how such a thing as this advanceth your reputation amongst all true lovers of the gospel. The King of France hath great pleasure to see how all the world trembleth under him, for I suppose it a satisfaction suitable to his heroick mind; but for my own particular, was I in his place, I could find out a hundred things that would please me more than to keep Flanders and Germany from sleeping for fear of him. These great preparations must have some matter to work upon, and by what I see, wherever he falleth, all the revenge they have upon him is by an immediate yielding to take away the relish of his victory.

The Duke of Norfolk hath been in these parts, though he did not stay long enough for me to see him; he intendeth to return into Flanders, and come back into England at Michaelmas. In the mean time, he sendeth me word, he is preparing Glossop in Derbyshire for his retreat. S^r W. Coventry is in Westmoreland at this time, and was pleased with the hopes he had of meeting you here on his return. It seemeth Harry hath made choice of Bourges to pass the

summer in, and sayeth when he is there he will give me an account how he liketh it. I take it to be a good sign that you like him so well, and you may be sure I cannot have any so pleasant thought as that of hoping he may succeed well in the world.^a In the mean time I leave you to your fine walks, yet would have you to know we have our shades and groves too; it is true the sun hath not yet provoked us to make much use of them. Wife and daughter kiss y^r hands, and I am, &c.

CXV.

H. SAVILE to the Earl of HALIFAX.

Fontainebleau, June 21, '80.

There are so few presidents of any correspondence betwixt the forests of Sherwood and Fontainebleau, that if a letter I had from you this morning had not roused me, I think I should have continued a silence I have too long kept, which you must have imputed to the fatality of the place, and not to any negligence of mine. But to speak the truth, since my being here, I have had more business than in my whole life before, and I shall have need of as broad shoulders in a politick sense as I have in a natural one, to bear all

^a The Countess Dowager of Sunderland writing on $\frac{2}{13}$ July, 1680, to Lord Halifax, (Letters, ed. 1819, p. 346), thus notices Lord Eland:—"I have a better subject now, my Lady Scroope's recommendation of your son. Of his wit she says great things; of his disposition she believes very well by all he says of those he should show it best to. For his discretion in marriage she will undertake you may leave it to him. There is a Protestant, he says, is the handsomest woman he ever saw, but she is not rich enough for him; her portion is not above 8,000*l*. English. There is another very rich that I told your Lordship was spoken of for Spencer. My Lady Scroope had heard of it; but she says she is not fit for him: she is 18 years old. Her mother sent my Lady Sunderland a fan, with diamonds upon the sticks that cost 50 pistoles: she had sent her a Japan cabinet, that is Madame de Gouvernet. Your son says he could be in love, but he can stop it before it is any trouble to him. My Lady Scroope says she is sure he has no attachment. She says he does very pleasantly rally his uncle with watching his ways, and he is as fond of him as he can be. She did not know that he loved play; she says he went his uncle's half two or three times at my Lady Exeter's at small ombre, and at the fair for some little trifles, but nothing else at all."

that is put upon them. However, the favourable prophecies of the politicians of St. James' Park are of great use to me, to let me know how far I may go with their approbation, and that if for the honour either of my country or my religion I should be cuff'd, I may without any hazard of my reputation turn the other cheek as well by their authority as that of the gospel; in y^e mean time I think I am not like to pass through such tryals, for your Ld^{sp}, who knows the hero I have to do with, may have observed that his method is *fortiter in re et suaviter in modo*, in which I shall so endeavour to imitate him as to give no impertinent provocation.

As for my journey into England, it is wholly stopt for the present by positive orders to follow the court in the progress; and if I can (which I am now endeavouring to obtain) get time when this King is at Dunkirk to steal over to London, whilst Mon^r Barillon does the like to this court, I shall be limited to so very few days that it will be impossible to go farther northwards than Windsor, so that I am left to the frail hopes of seeing you there. My Lady Winchester in her passage here on Tuesday last, having told me there was great discourse of your returning to London when she left it, but you mentioning nothing of it yourself, I can ground but little hopes upon her Ladyship's intelligence, who is like to find her lord in better health of body, though his purse have suffer'd, for I have seen bills of exchange of his for Paris in the hands of the Comte D'Auvergne and the Chevalier de Savoy, to the value of above 2,000 pistoles. I had lately a letter from your son from Bourges, but he seemed doubtful of his stay there, for he said he had not made any acquaintance that pleased him, and fear'd he was in a place where such were hard to be found; that the little time he had spent in great citys had already put him above the taste of little ones, in which I think he judges very truly and naturally, the fall being much more tolerable from London to a hermitage, then from London to Leicester or Northampton. I assure you nature has done very well for the young gentleman, and when time has eased him of some of the too vigorous spirits of youth, I question not but he will do

exceeding well in his generation when we of the former shall be under ground, but I cannot but say at present he whips and spurs on his body too fast, but it is what we have all done before him, and therefore you must be content to let him tread your paths one with the other. I heartily wish I could take one turn with you in your forrest upon this and many other subjects, but I must submit to my fortune and walk in the *haute fustaye* here, where I am more famous for walking alone and avoiding the crowd than I shall ever be for any thing else here. Pray let my complements at least be made to S^r W. Coventry in his return, since I cannot hope to see him myself, and you may with great truth assure both him and yourself that if I knew the time of your being together, it would be very uneasy to me not to make a third, for several passages since we parted would make me very tolerable company for a little while. My duty to your ladies and to poor old Rufford. *Quod nostra infantia Cælum transit.*

CXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, July 3, '30. N. S.

The last post brought me a very foolish letter from a very foolish servant I had sent into England, who it seems, being acquainted with S^r Tho. Clarges, has got him to write to you a begging letter in my behalf for a couple of pads. I know too well what sort of palfrys your L^{dsh} uses to be stored with to apply to you when I would have a very good one, so that to assure you I had no part in the forward impertinence of my servant I do release you from any care in that matter, if you have had any, which I am not apt to believe. I have leave to make a step into England, provided I can return to this court at Dunkirk on the 22^d of this month. I hope to embark at Dieppe on the 8th, so that if you are at Rufford it will be impossible for me to see you; but I will hope the good company you meet at Althorpe will prevail with you to return to London, for upon that depends all my hopes of seeing you. As for S^r W. Coventry, I despair

of having a sight of him, but the next week will open this matter; in the mean time I presume your son is quiet at Bourges, for I have not heard of him since my last to you.

CXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Windsor, July $\frac{2}{15}$, '80.

I came to London on Wednesday night with your friend my Lady Scroope,^a and I was yesterday hurry'd hither in such haste that I cou'd not write to you before now. I do already plainly perceive that I am not so much as to hope to see you, for the King of France will be at Calais this day seven-night, and I must of necessity either be with him there, or two days after at Dunkirk: thus you see how we poor younger brothers are tumbled and toss'd in the world for want of a sufficient number of acres of our own to lye still in; a very few would serve my turn, so weary I am of perpetual motion, very unpleasant to the lazyest man alive. I am yet in the amaze of a new comer, and, so far from knowing anything worth your information, I do not yet know myself where I am, the scene is so alter'd here in my absence, and I should have need of much longer time than will be allow'd me to make the most ordinary observations of what is doing here, so that I must leave you in the track of intelligence you are already in, without pretending to be already so skill'd in the present transactions as to be able to add anything to what you know of them, who have so lately had a conference with our prime statesmen. As for myself, I have a very favourable outward reception everywhere; whether that will lead me to any more substantial effects of my voyage I do not know, but I am enough used to disappointments not to wonder or indeed much complain of whatever

^a On $\frac{2}{15}$ June, 1680, the Countess Dowager of Northumberland told Lord Halifax: "My Lady Scroope is very angry, Mr. Savile says, with his Most X^{an} Majesty for refusing her a pass." (Letters, p. 332.)

befalls me. I saw Sr Tho. Thynne at your house at London; it is a pleasure to me to see the most unreserved friendship he has for you; he is in good earnest a very honest gentleman. Perhaps when I have pass'd a day or two more here, I may find something fitter to fill up a letter than to make excuses for the coarse paper I find in a Windsor lodging. At present my complements to you and your family is all I can afford you.

Sr W^m Coventry is out of my reach as well as yourself, but I have set aside Tuesday to dine at Enfield if I can possible.

What I always thought has proved true, that I had no box of writings concerning Barroughby, and must return my former asseveration of having deliver'd them to you upon an occasion like the present one, and I have never seen or heard of them since; amongst the number of your writings may they not be found?

CXVIII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, July $\frac{2}{13}$, '80.

It is a cruel thing your stay in England should be so limited that it is impossible for me to hope to see you, a thing I wish for many reasons, there being a great many things of several kinds both private and publick that it might be of some use as well as satisfaction to us to talk of. But you are a man of that importance to the world that all your minutes are precious, and so your poor country friends must be content. In the mean time we rely upon you that you will stop the K. of France from doing any hurt in Flanders, supposing you have power with him, notwithstanding your late disputes. Your countermand about the couple of pads was unnecessary, for the truth is, it is almost as possible to get a horse that flyeth as a horse that paceth, I mean one that doth it well, so rare that kind of creature is grown amongst us, and for my own stock you know how I used to be provided, though I intend for Harry's

sake to have my stable better furnished. If I had ever a one fit for you he should be at your service without the help of a third person to intercede for it. If you have a mind to tell me anything you do not think fit to trust the post with, my servant in town will be able to convey it safely to me; you will let me know whether you can get your tether lengthened, and the time you are certainly to return again. Adieu.

CXIX.

SAME to SAME.

July $\frac{5}{15}$, '80.

I find our meeting, for reasons of state, is to be prorogued; all that I am now to hope is that some sudden occasion will send you back again in the winter, and then probably I shall not be at this distance. The disappointment of not seeing you now is grievous, having so many things to say to you, and as many to know of you: in the meantime how cometh it to pass that you put that affront upon my poor tenement as not to make it your lodging when you are in town? your acquaintance of all sorts might have access to you, and I should not at all be scrupulous, or think my house unsanctified by any use you can put it to. I believe you find the scene a good deal alter'd since you left us, and in that respect your journey will be of some advantage to you. I hope it will be in other things so too; this being a favourable conjuncture for you to recommend yourself by acquitting yourself well of whatever is intrusted to you. Sr W^m Coventry gave me a hint in general of something concerning yourself, by your order, and I am not curious enough to enquire into the particulars, except I could serve you in them, which I am sure I cannot whilst I am here. I have not lately heard from our young man; when I did, he was recovering, but I am a little troubled his distemper should stay so long with him. I have upon search found the writings that I hope will be necessary for your defence; so that you have no more to do but to send for Mr. Perkins, who I suppose is in town, to inform

yourself of your business, and if possible, to drink a bottle with Mr. Meredith, to find out in his ale upon what grounds he goeth, and who sets him on. My wife and daughter kiss your hands. Adieu.

CXX.

H. SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

London, July^a, '80.

Not to act the great statesman, I am in good earnest in such a hurry here that I do not yet know upon what ground I stand. I am this minute going to Windsor,^a and at my return shall on Sunday embark with my L^d of Oxford and Coll. Churchill for Dunkirk. They carry complements; and I am press'd by the Spanish Amb^{dr} about his master's business, for that of my own would not have been so urgent. but I might have made a step to Rufford; but I comfort myself in this disappointment by hoping to make another short turn hither about 2 months hence, (when I shall see the mighty monarch turning homewards,) of which this is the occasion. I have already kiss'd his Maj^{ty}s hands to be his Vice-chamberlain (of which the best circumstance is selling my other place), but I am to keep it a secret for some time,^b because very lately 3 lords ask'd for it, and his Maj^{ty} gave them no other answer but that he would make none yet; so that I being it so soon after he will not disoblige them by so speedy a declaration, but gives me all assurances that at that time it shall be, and my Lord S[underland] and my Lady P[ortsmouth] are guarantees of this treaty, which as I tell you must be kept a secret in the mean time. I have been so little here that I thought it not worth the trouble of preparing an apartment in your house, for which offer as I thank you, so had I stay'd longer I should have made use of it, especially if the Duke of Tremouille and other French men of

^a Writing on the same day, the Dowager Lady Sunderland said, "Mr. Savile does not desire to quit France till we have less of the politics and better wine. He is fatter than he was." (Letters, p. 356.)

^b See Letter CXXV. post, p. 167.

quality should come over, whom I would have see me in a good house for my own credit. I know not what you can mean by S^r W. Cov. hint to you concerning me, unless it be this thing which leads me to my selling my place, which is at present my *sum-mum bonum*. As for our young gentleman at Bourges, I have not heard from him a long time, supposing, I presume, that I came into England sooner than I did; but I am sorry you can tell me nothing of him, because I was concerned for his sore throat. I am glad you have found the writings, and if I can I will find Mr. Perkins. But for Mr. Meredith, I have not leisure for an enquiry in the cautious manner it must be made. S^r W. Hickman and I are to meet on Sunday morning; our discourse will end in a letter I will write you, and send to your servant for safe conveyance. In the mean time, I presume you know that the K. of France has prolong'd the answer of the Spaniards about the title of Burgundy from the 15th of this month to the same day in the next. For matters at home, I know them so little, I am not sure I am not in the Indies. I have got my cousin Ned Savile made a captain in my L^d Plymouth's regiment for Tangier this very morning. How he will raise men for that service I cannot answer, but I leave him to shift as well as his fellows. I neither can nor need say more at present, but that I am an humble servant to your ladies and to your honour.

CXXI.

SAME to SAME.

Dunkirk, July $\frac{25}{26}$. '80.

The morning I left London I stay'd three hours for S^r William Hickman, who not coming left me neither argument nor time to write then to you. Upon the whole matter I find your friends on that side the water enough divided in their opinions concerning your return to town. Those who lately met you on purpose to invite you thither are violent in it: others are as eager for your staying where you are till the very day before the parl^t

sits, thinking you may hazard the repute they think your absence has gain'd you amongst such as thought you had too great a hand in some matters the last year w^{ch} were not generally approved of. Of all this I am a very ill judge, but shall ever wish you may do what is best for you, and shall leave the decision of this affair till I see you, which will be much sooner than possibly you apprehend, for, to tell you a secret which you must keep, not having been able in my late voyage to finish absolutely what I mention'd in my last letter, I did at parting obtain the King's leave to make another trip over as soon as I have seen this King safe at Versailles, which will be in less than six weeks, and the moment I am in England I will write to you to meet me at Fotheringay; if you approve the project you may beforehand talk of a journey you design thither, that so my meeting you there may seem less affected; and I promise to come the best inform'd I can of all you care to know, and I have reason to think I shall not be very ignorant. In the mean time I will neither be too confident in my knowledge nor too sanguine in my opinion; but truly by the face of our court I thought people began to be tired out in endeavouring to support what cannot possibly be long supported, and that no delays or expedients can justify; but of this more when we meet. In the mean time I hope you may sleep quietly for anything on this side the water. I wish I could say as much for myself, who, besides the perpetual hurry of a troublesome voyage, am to struggle with whole armies of flies, fleas, gnats, punaises, and such terrible enemies, from whom I have already received several wounds, which, if not so deep, are as vexatious as greater, by the frequent repetition of them, which make me out of my wits. This King should have been here on Tuesday, but, taking St Omer in his way, will not be here till to morrow, to the great grief of my L^d of Oxford, who longs to be at home already, the jockeys being not yet come, and nobody taking a pipe with him. If anything occur here worth your knowledge you shall have it; in the mean time take all the complements I can make you, but at least let your ladies have their share of them.

CXXII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, ^{July 24} '80.
_{August 3}

I have yours from Dunkirk, where I find you have unwelcome bedfellows; but men of business must be content with these small mortifications. If your house at Barroughby was not somewhat out of repair you might sleep cool and quiet. And now I mention your tenement, I am to tell you your high and mighty antagonist is resolved not to try the combat with you this assizes; in that he is like the King of France, who you say intendeth to prorogue his conquests till another year. Your attorney Perkins hath had conference with this foe of yours, of which I have not yet the particular account. I only know he will not at present go on with his tryal, and that he pretendeth some grant in the last King's time, which shall be search'd for. We were ready for him, and since he hath given a second disappointment, it may perhaps be necessary to fall upon him in Chancery, for disquieting you in your possession, but this shall be well consider'd; and therefore I do not tell it you as a thing yet resolved; this may be the best and most natural pretence for your desiring me to meet you half way to town when you come back again, in case I should not be there, which it is possible I may be if your intended stay should be anything prolonged; in the meantime I am very glad you had ground whilst you were at court to make the conjectures you mention. It is not a good thing to rely upon; but men may be saved by a death-bed repentance, and why not a state so too. It is good to hope it, and it would be a sin not to try it. I had a letter lately from our young man, who is well, but has not recover'd his strength. Poor old Rufford mourneth that she could not see you; now she hath her best cloaths on she hath little to brag of, but yet she sayeth her flyes are harmless, and the air is clear; and, if it was possible for a statesman to love ease and quiet and silence, you would rather enjoy them with bilberrys than eat melons in the crowd and dust of a wandring court. This she biddeth me tell you, which is all, but that I and every body here are much at your service.

CXXIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Earl of HALIFAX.

Maubeuge, Aug. 12, '80.

I have just received yours of July 24, and did never wish more than at this moment that my house were in repair at Barroughby, with some more acres belonging to it; for I am in a place this King is making so strong against his ennemies, that it is very inconvenient for his friends. It is beyond all imagination how every body is lodged; and I have for my own share fifteen horses standing in the rain for want of a stable. Such mortifications in the midst of the greatest courts ought to make you country gentlemen admire your own happiness—I am sure I envy it. But to come to our barber, I am well enough satisfied he lets us alone for this time; but I cannot see why we should hesitate to deal so with him, for these impertinent alarums he gives us ought to have an end one way or other, therefore pray incline your thoughts that way, unless you see some better reason to the contrary than my small skill can foresee. I shall not fail to make this the pretence of my meeting you; and for fear the Spanish embassadour hunt me back to my station as eagerly as he did the last time, I resolve to see you the first week I am in England, which will probably be about your tenth of September. Having settled this matter from the places I am like to see, it will be needless to trouble you further till I come nearer you. I shall then not fail to acquaint you with my motions. In the mean time I kiss the hands of your ladies and my mother earth which gave me birth, old Rufford.

CXXIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, Sept. $\frac{4}{14}$ th, '80.

I had yours by this post with your kind summons to meet you at Fotheringhay, but you have by this time one from me to acquaint

you with my resolution of setting out from hence the very same day you seem to pitch upon for your return into France, so that if your business will allow you to stay three or four days longer, I may see you with much less inconvenience to you than if you should take a journey for it. You may easily guess at my impatience till we meet, but I have so much business appointed this next week that it is not possible for me to stir from hence. The 17th of this month I intend to be in town,^a and will presume I may find you there; if not, I shall lament my own ill fortune, but acquitt you from any fault in it, having made so kind an offer to me. Yours.

CXXV.

SAME to SAME.

Rufford, Sept. $\frac{6}{18}$, '80.

You might think there are no good manners in the forest, if I did not send my own complements upon your late preferment,^b which I hope may hereafter entitle you to something more substantial than this is in itself, and the next good news I hope to hear is that you have met with some man of ability to buy your other place; in the mean time I thank you for staying till I come, which if I could do sooner than the next week I should be very glad to prevent your complement, but it is not possible for me without an inconvenience greater than you can easily imagine. Yours.

^a Lady Rachel Russell, in a letter of $\frac{17}{17}$ Sept. 1680, said, "Lord Halifax came to town on Thursday, and next morning his coach stood at Sir Tho^s Chicheley's (Master of the Ordnance and M.P. for Cambridge, who had married Lord H's mother). The town says he is to hear all sides, and then choose wisely. He kissed the Dutchess' (Portsmouth's) hand last night, and she is gone this morning to tell the news at Newmarket;" where the King was.

^b Henry Savile was on 3rd (13th) Sept. 1680, sworn as Vice-Chamberlain to the King, which place had been vacant since the death of Sir George Cartwright. (Kennet, iii. 380.) Savile held it during the remainder of Charles's reign, and was reappointed by James II. on 17th Feb. O.S. 1684-5. In that year 150*l.* a quarter is charged in the "Secret Service Expenses," (ed. J. Y. Akerman, Camd. Soc.) as paid to him: the last payment was in the account allowed 22 March, 1686-7. On the 8th March, O.S. Col. James Porter was sworn Vice-Chamberlain, (Lond. Gaz. 2223); and we find that in July of that year Savile went to Paris for surgical aid.

CXXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Nov. $\frac{1}{11}$, '80.

My daughter Betty having yet no galant to employ in her service, her father must supply that place in answering your civilitys, which I assure you are very well received, and have gone very far towards your supplanting mee in her good opinion. Y^r nephew will probably be gone towards Italy before this reacheth you, and I hope he hath carry'd y^r advice along with him, to think upon as he goeth. I have renew'd my leave to him to dispose of himself as he is most inclined, and I am apt to believe the inconveniences of such a journey at this time of year may help to tame his roving fancy, and for the time to come make him love home the better for it. My L^d Newcastle hath this day lost my L^d Ogle, after a sickness of three weeks; I believe him of all men living at this time the most to be pitied, his thoughts being so very much fixed upon making his family great, and by this sudden blow all his hopes are irrecoverably blasted. The journals of par^l^t and all other news being sent to you by virtue of your character, I need not repeat them.^a You may think there is no great progress made yet in publick matters but the necessary methods at the first sitting of a par^l^t make things go slower than they would do otherwise. I am interrupted, and can only tell you I am ever yours.

CXXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Nov. $\frac{1}{13}$, '80.

I am desired by my very good friend the Dean of Canterbury,^b to recommend this gentleman Mr. Nelson to your kind reception, which, as you give it by y^r place to every man that speaketh English, so I am sure you will not refuse to do it something more particularly

^a The King opened parliament on 21 October, O. S., 1680.

^b Dr. John Tillotson, afterwards (1693) Archbishop of Canterbury.

to him, that he may joyn with all our other travellers in your praises, for an affable minister. Our world here is so heated that you must not be surprised though you should hear I am in the disfavour of those from whom I never yet deserved ill: if innocence can be a protection, you need never be in pain for me, and so I kiss your hands.

CXXVIII.

HENRY SAVILE to the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

MY LORD,

Paris, Novem. 30, 1680.

I am certainly informed that heer was lately a declaration ready drawne in favour of English Catholicks, that in case of their dyeing heer during their exil upon a religious account, they should not bee liable to the *droit d'Aubeine*. For what reasons they stopt this I know not, but it has ended in a private admonition that any one that would desire an order of councill for this privilege should have one.

I heare of another declaration against the Huguenots, w^{ch} if true will make brave worke, viz. that whoever does not kneel, meeting the hoste, shall be whipt through the streets by y^e hangman. There is alsoe an edict comeing forth to forbid marriages between people of different religions. Y^r L^{ps} most faithful and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

E. of Sunderland.

CXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid. Extracts.]

MY LORD,

Paris, 10^{ber} 4, '80.

When the edict against the Huguenots concerning the visiting theire sick pass'd the parliament the last week, it was spoake against by severall with more freedome then is usually there taken, but it

pass'd out of obedience to the King's orders, not out of any approbation of the thing

People heer will needs have it that our Par^t will soon bee prorogued or dissolved; it will bee the welcomest newes heer that can come from any part of Christendome. God send all turne to the best for our master, and let others shift for themselves. I am, my Lord, y^r L^{ps} most faithfull and obedient serv^t,

HEN. SAVILE.

E. of Sunderland.

CXXX.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Dec. $\frac{12}{23}$. '80.

You will before this have one of mine which giveth you some account of my late preferment in the House of Commons, who were pleased to make me a man of more importance than I am, the better to entitle me to the honour of being adressed against.^a I am not worth the notice they have been pleased to take of me, and I do not doubt of outliving the disadvantage this may seem to throw upon me, being resolved to give such evidence of myself, if I should continue to have any part in the publick business, as shall cure the suspicions men may have taken of me in a heat, for differing with them in some of their darling points, to w^{ch} they are at present so wedded that no reason can be admitted in contradiction to them. Your kindness maketh this appear a heavier thing than either it is in itself, or then I apprehend it; the circumstances that attended it are

* The part taken by Halifax against the Exclusion Bill, rejected in the Lords by 63 to 30, so incensed the Commons that they addressed the King for his removal from his Majesty's presence and council as a favourer of popery: the private reason being his advice for the last dissolution. The King replied on 26th November (O. S.), that he did not find grounds in the address for the removal: but that if the Earl or any other member of the council should in due and regular course be charged with any crime, his Majesty would leave him to his legal defence without interposing to protect him. (Com. Journal, ix. 663.)

more than the thing itself and yet I have borne it without much disquiet. I must only cast about for a new set of friends, for my old ones have been so very zealous for the publick that some of them thought it as meritorious to persecute me as others believed it excusable to desert me: the history of it I reserve till I see you, and in the meantime whatever may be said from any other hand to lay any blame upon me, let it not find any great credit with you, for I dare undertake when you hear all you shall not need to make use of any partiality to incline you to judge of my side. I had a letter this day from your nephew dated at Turin, in his way to Venice. My L^d Dorchester and L^d Coventry are dead, which may give you the opportunity of mourning if you care for it. Yours.

CXXXI.

HENRY SAVILE to the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, Jan. 15, 1681, S. N.

I did yesterday at St. Germain's deliver into his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty}s handes the memoriall of which I have allready sent you the copy by Mr. Fitzpatrick.^a Hee seemed to hearken favourably enough to what I said to him upon it, and told mee hee would have the matter examined: to-morrow I will returne to courte to see if anything have been done in it, having more reason hitherto to hope good than feare ill successe in that affaire.

Mon^r de Segnelay is gone this day to Havre and Cherbourg. I am told Mon^r de Vauban, the famous ingeener, meets him at the former, and that a new fort is to bee built there.

Monsieur de Louvoy goes alsoe in a few dayes to visit all the new fortifications on the frontiere.

^a The memorial was in favour of the exemption of English subjects residing in France from the recent decrees against the Protestants.

I presume you heare from Bruxelles that this King has sent some foot into Wurton in Luxembourg, and since that Mon^r de Bussy has orders to marche to Beauvin, whether to take it or only to hinder some fortifications the Spanyards are making there, I know not, but the right of doeing either is pretty equall.

The intendant of Rocheford has brought in a generall state of the shippes, magazins, provisions, men, &c. under his care. Those of Toulon and Brest have orders to doe the like, his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} being resolved to know what navall forces he can have in case of necessity.

Severall Protestant officers goe from hence to the Elec^{tr} of Brandenburg, and are permitted to goe; those who goe to the States steall away privately. Your L^p will make your owne remarques upon that difference.

I hope my Lord Stafford's^a tryall will bee translated into Frenche and some coppys sent mee, for I am bayted out of my wits every day about it.

I begg y^r L^p to give the enclosed to his Maj^{ty}; and beleeve me ever, my Lord, y^r Lps. most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

E. of Sunderland.

CXXXII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Jan. $\frac{6}{8}$, 80-1.

Your answer to mine by Mr. Nelson is in a style that of all others ought to be the most welcome to me. I like kindness best when it is in so plain a dress, and to be told by a brother, and, which is more, by a friend, what the world sayeth or thinketh of me; though their censures of me may be mistaken, yet I cannot be so in judging y^r part to proceed only from true and perfect kindness, which I assure you is not thrown away upon me. Your opinion that I am in the right

^a The Earl of Halifax had been "one that gave his voice for Lord Stafford." (Sir J. Reresby's Memoirs, 237.) Sunderland voted for the condemnation.

may be too partiall, but that I think myself so, you may undertake for me, and I shall not deceive you, and if the points lately in question are errours on my side, I have this to say in my excuse, that I have hardly one friend that was not till very lately of that very opinion which is now accounted a mortal heresy; so that if by a greater measure of grace than I pretend to they have outran me by their sudden conversion, they ought to have been gentler to a weak brother than I have found them. If I could tell you the several steps of their behaviour to me, you would wonder they do not turn papists, since there is no other church in the world charitable enough to give them absolution for it. I would not much doubt of satisfying you in the great objections made against me, if I had time to discourse with you, but a letter cannot be made long enough to give you a clear light into things of this kind. You will I am sure give me some kind of credit when I tell you I am not such a volunteer in philosophy as to provoke such a storm as hath fallen upon me, from a mistaken principle of bravery, to do a thing only because it is dangerous; but when upon enquiry I think myself in the right, I confess I have an obstinate kind of morality, which I hope may make amends for my want of devotion. It seems the foreign ministers have had my picture drawn by their correspondents not very much to my advantage. I guess who were the painters, and think I am not mistaken in it. Where all this will end, either in relation to myself or to the publick, God in Heaven only knoweth. I am at this hour threatned with more thunder from the House of Commons to-morrow; whether it will be so or in what manner I do not yet know, but where there is infinite anger there is reason to expect the worst; for which I have recourse still to my small philosophy, and have not only the comfort of innocence to support me, but the impossibility of avoiding any strokes of this kind without such indecencies (to give no worse term) as I can never digest: and, though I agree with you this is not an age for a man to follow the strict morality of better times, yet sure mankind is not yet so debased but that there will ever be found some few men who will

scorn to join in concert with the publick voice, when it is not well grounded; and even that popular fury which may now blow in my face will perhaps with a little patience not only abate, but turn against these very men that now appear against me. I am interrupted, and so can only tell you I am for ever yours.

CXXXIII.

HENRY SAVILE to the Earl of SUNDERLAND.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

MY LORD,

Paris, Jan. 18, 1681, S. N.

I was soe very desirous to give y^r L^p an account by this poste of the successe of my last memoriall that, though I was as much out of order on Thursday last as a man can well bee with a colde, I went to St. Germain's, but at my arrivall Mon^r de Croissy was not there; at my returne last night I found him heer, and hee tolde mee hee had, in obedience to his master's orders, sent to all officers concerned in that matter, not to putt the late edicts concerning religion in execution against the King our master's subjects till further order, in which condition this affaire will always remayne if Mon^r de Barillon doe not revive it, to whom orders are sent to give an account heer of the usage of the King's Roman Catholic subjects in England, that beeing the modell designed for what treatment the English Protestants shall find heer; so that for the present I look upon myselfe as wholly quitt of this businesse, beeing gone on our side the water, and very proper to be discoursed by his Majesty's order with Mon^r Barillon, and upon any new difficultyes I shall insist upon an answer in writing, but for the present this seemed as faire a returne to my memoriall as I could well hope for.

I have receaved y^r L^ps of Xber 27th, which relates to the Spanish ambassador. I shall conferr with him concerning the part hee would have mee beare, but you may guesse at my successe by what I

wrote lately to your L^p concerning himselfe:^a it is some time since the Dutch ambassador had the like from his master, but hath done nothing in it as yet.

I am most credibly told that, a strict enquiry having been lately made into the severall classes of seamen belonging to this kingdome, it is found that in eight yeares time, what have been killed, lost in warres, dead of naturall deaths, made slaves, and deserted as well upon account of idlenesse as religion, doe amount to fifteen thousand men; and that in the bookes of entries of new recruits putt to sea to bee bredding to the trade, there are not found more than betwixt five and six thousand in the same terme of time, soe that the diminution is neer nine thousand men; and I am content y^r L^p should take this for a true account and reproache mee for it if it bee otherwise, an affirmation y^r L^p knowes I very seldome use.

Mon^r du Quesne, who is expected dayly heer from Provence, is to oversee the building of a small frigate for the canal of Versailles; her keel is to be but of fifteen feet. Another is to bee built in the same place by the direction of the Chevallier de Tourville; her keel is to bee thirty feet, and shee must have port-holes for sixty gunns. They are both to bee built as like the English frigatts as is possible, and these gentlemen are to shew who learnt the trade best when they were our schollers; that w^{ch} excells shall serve as a modell for the future in this King's yards.

I was told yesterday that the foot commanded by this King to marche into Wurton were countermanded, but I will not answer for the truth of this piece of intelligence, it is soe unlike what wee are used to see heer. I am, my Lord, your L^{ps} most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

E. of Sunderland.

^a The haughty and supercilious reply of Louis to the representations of Spain, and the memorials presented from the latter and the States General to Charles II., advising him to reconcile his differences with parliament and to oppose the designs of France, are given by Ralph, (i. 548).

CXXXIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Jan. 29, '80-1.

You have given full evidence of your kindness by your fears for me, which I suppose may increase when you hear of the dissolution of a Parliament. You may believe me when I tell you, this is not to be imputed to me,^a though I am far from arraigning the better judgments of those with whom I may differ in this particular. If it should happen, which is not unlikely, that I should go down to Rufford, you will be further convinced in this matter; and if I could talk with you, I should as little doubt of doing it in that of my L^d Stafford, in which you are possess'd I see by the powerfull majority, which is not at all times found to be in the right. A man must never hope a pardon for small sins if he will digest great ones, and where blood is in the case there is not, or at least ought not to be, any room for prudence. That an honest man is a very scurvy calling I agree with you; but having used it so long I do not know how to change, but must be content to keep to it with all its hazards and inconveniences. By what you say concerning my late friends, I find a statesman hath as much charity out of interest as a Christian hath from his religion, and is as easily reconciled to his enemies whenever the scene changeth, and that it suiteth well with his affairs. I confess I, who am slow to anger, when I am once thoroughly injured, am apt enough to retain it, not so far as to revenge myself, but only to remember, and not easily to trust again. Your bill of naturalization did not want my help while the Parl^t sat, but, greater matters depending, it could not be dispatch'd; when the next meeteth I do not doubt but it will pass, if the session continueth any time. I wish Harry would think of coming home, and not get such a habit of wandering as wou'd at last grow to a disease. You will have orders from hence to move the K. of France concerning the business of Bouvines and the disputes about the dependencies in Flanders; you

^a See Sir J. Reresby's Mem. 113, 114. Lord Halifax had said "that the King's uncertainty and silence as to what he proposed to himself made men afraid to serve him."

will be so directed in the manner of doing it, that I need not say any more in it. Adieu.^a

CXXXV.

SAME to SAME.

London, Jan. 25, '80-1.
Feb. 4,

Your kind repeated earnestness to rescue me from the dangers you apprehend I am in from the general anger that hath of late been raised against me, coming from the warmth of your heart, as I am sure it doth, is a welcome though an unnecessary evidence of your mind towards me, and though I cannot absolutely agree to your prescriptions of a looser morality in things that relate to the publick, yet I am enough convinced, and was so even before my late experience, that there is a good deal of hazard in opposing the torrent of a House of Commons; but on the other side, it being the only definition of an honest man to be a lover of justice with all its inconveniences, I do not very well know how things of this kind are to be avoided, but by such means as would lye heavier upon me than all the votes or addresses an angry Parliament can throw upon me. I have had the good luck to have every unpopular thing imputed to me in the first place, and by going a strait way without any byass, or engaging in any faction, one part of the world hath been much more violent against me than the other hath been in my defence. All these disadvantages did not move me so as to quit my ground whilst the Parlt sat. I thought myself restrain'd by a necessary point of honour not to do that by compulsion which perhaps in itself was the thing in the world I most desired; but now that the Parlt is dissolved,^b I am going down to Rufford to breathe a little, and enjoy some quiet, which will be a very welcome thing to me, and when we meet again

^a Henry Savile's answers to this and the following Letters, although alluded to by Lord Halifax, are not in the Duke of Devonshire's MS.

^b It had been adjourned from the 10th to the 30th January, and in the mean time dissolved. A new Parliament was called to meet at Oxford on the 21st March.

at Oxford I must venture to go into the storm, and receive the shot once more of an angry House of Commons, except they should by a miracle grow into a better temper than is naturally expected from them. I shall at least have some respite, though I assure you it was not my choice. I am for ever yours.

CXXXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Rufford, Feb. $\frac{5}{8}$ th, '80-1.

I had yours the last post, and am glad to find by it that S^r Thomas Thynne hath stated my case, so as to set me right in your opinion. You know that, besides the perpetual employment I had whilst I was in town, I am naturally not very good at dilating—half laziness and half honesty. I do not take so much pains to vindicate myself as perhaps a wiser man would do, and, being secure of your justice to me, I know you would take my word for my being an honest man, and therefore I thought it less necessary to enter into particulars of my defence. Things of this kind appear much greater to you at a distance than they do to us upon the place; and it look'd much worse to you out of a very obliging reason to me, which was your being so kindly concern'd for me. I assure you I would say a great deal upon this subject, my heart being full of it; but that between brothers it is hardly allowable to say the kind things one thinketh, because it looketh as if they could be doubted, which I dare say cannot be in our case of either side. I do not agree to the expedient you recommend to me for my fuller vindication. The president you mention doth not come home to me. That lord, as he could pen an apology better, so he wanted it more than I do, for I assure you if I am criminal I am an impudent one, and if you had been upon the place, you would have seen me much less out of countenance than those that pursued me. I think that I am not mistaken when I tell you the greatest part of them are far from

being proud of what they have done as to my particular; for where a thing wanteth a true foundation in justice it cannot be long lived, let the authority be never so great that would give it countenance, and make it pass in the world. As for one thing you mention and set weight upon, there is no danger it should be imputed to me, whatever might be reported at first; I have made my thoughts publick enough concerning that matter; though after the things that have happened to me I will answer for nothing of that kind. As for any that have dealt ill with me from whom I had no reason to expect it, I leave them to the vengeance of their repenting thoughts, which must at one time or other represent their ungenerous proceeding in a worse and an uglier shape than either a vote or an address ever appear'd to me. I am now at old Rufford, where the quiet I enjoy is so pleasant, after the late hurricane I have escaped from in town, that I think myself in a new world, and if wishes were not vain things, and resolutions little better in so uncertain an age as this, I would neither intend nor desire any thing but what I have here—silence and retreat; but if the Parl^t sitteth at Oxford, by vertue of my peership, I am under the obligation of venturing once more to run the gantlet, and I am so ill at any undecent evasion of that which I think my duty, that if I should go about it I should do it very scurvily, which maketh me run hazards in these cases that more dexterous men would perhaps find means to escape.

I came through your corporation of Newark, where I find you might be chosen preferably to any other pretender; but, having so good an excuse as a foreign employment, I suppose you will not lose it at this time. The quiet station you are in is not to be quitted to come into a storm, and thrust yourself into the difficulties that must always attend a courtier who will be of the House of Commons. I speak against myself in this, since if you were there I should not only have a kind advocate, but a good one too to help me, if there should be occasion. Will you not let a man that is grown famous for giving ill counsell send you this short piece of advice, which in this changeable time is not to declare yourself too positively of any

party. I do not mean to unfix your Protestantship; in that be as firm as you please, but in problems of state, where men may or may not be in the right, do not deserve the good opinion of one side so entirely as to forfeit your credit with the other.^a When you and I meet I can confirm this doctrine by an instance that you will not disallow. Adieu, yours.

CXXXVII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, Feb. 15, 1681, S. N.

Having heard of my Lord Sunderland's removall^b but not of his successour, it falls naturally to your share to bee troubled with mee till I have positive orders to whom to addresse Though my former letters have not been immediately directed to you, I may conclude you had a sight of them, and may probably remember what I have wrote concerning one Massaldi; hee was with mee yesterday with a Gascon called De la Jarte, who is as well as himselfe a witnesse of Kelly's owning the having been one of the murtherers of Sr Ed. Godfry; heer is no notary will take theire depositions, soe that it is left to you to consider whether what they attest is worth sending for them into England; if soe, they expect theire charges should bee borne, and I presume some reward when they arrive, their extreame beggery being the onely thing suspitious in their undertaking; nor indeed doe I see much necessity of further proof in a matter soe many men have suffer'd death for There is so little preparations for any navall forces for the next summer, that I thinke I may venture to

^a See Lord Halifax's "Character of a Trimmer."

^b The removal of Sunderland from the Secretaryship, and of Essex and Sir Wm. Temple from the council, left Hyde with the chief power in the government. Halifax again returned to Rufford. Sir Leoline Jenkins had announced his appointment in a letter to H. Savile dated 3rd (ye 13 Feb/ N.S.) which was on its way. (Secretary's Letter Book.)

assure you they will not bee considerable. The discourse of the Dolphin's goeing to the waters of Bourbon in Aprill holdes yet, but not that of the King's goeing with him. Both court and towne are now in the great jollity of the carnival, soe that I can furnish you with noe newes from hence, but there is such dayly made heer from your partes as would allmost distract a man. Nor can you imagine how many people of quality have sent to my house to know if the King our master was not besieged in the Tower, if hee were not poysoned, if hee were not murthered, and all the horred stuffe villains can invent; for, beleeeve it, these reportes are very industriously spread, as well as those of six millions sent by this crowne into England,^a &c.

Sir, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Sr L. Jenkins.

CXXXVIII.

Sir L. JENKINS to MR. SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

7 Febr. [1681].

I began y^r trouble by y^e last ord^y. I intend to continue it with your permission, but still make it as short as I can. 'All arts possible are used to bring a disorder to his Ma^{ts} affaires. The faction is a delibrating at this time how to make the Guards an illegall institution; and to have the off^{rs} first indicted, then bound over first to appear, then to y^r good behaviour, w^h they resolve to interpret to be as often broken as they shall be found to be in y^e head of companies or troopes y^t are arm'd as the guards are *in terrorem populi*.

^a Barillon states that he sent home on 22nd Dec. 1678 an account of the sums expended by him to that date, leaving 21,915*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* then in hand, which on 14th Dec. 1679, was reduced to 17,674*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.*, by presents to the Duke of Buckingham, Wm. Harbord, Algernon Sidney, Sir Edward Harley, Sacheverel, and others whose names are given in Dalrymple. (Appendix, pp. 315, 317.) The report of a fresh remittance in 1681 may have been true, though all the other rumours were false. Barillon had been instructed to offer Charles pecuniary aid or a pension. (Ibid. p. 291.)

All country is now about their elections, which will be generally y^e same as in y^e last p^t.

The French Amb^r here sayes y^t y^e differences about y^e claines of France in y^e Empire will be referr'd to conferences, in order to compose things *a l'amiable*. I wish this were true; it would be an argum^t to me y^t for this year we would have the lesse reason to feare a rapture, tho' I confesse it w^d conclude naturally enough for y^e quite contrary position.

The Prince and Princ^{esse} of Orange have been made so much of at Amst^{dm} y^t never was seen y^e like. The people kissing the coach-wheeles and tearing off any th^g the Pr^{esse} wore, y^t they might be possess'd of anything she call'd once her owne as a relique.

I pray do w^t you can to penetrate wh^r there be any very late treaty betwⁿ y^e crown and y^e El^r of Brand^{gh}. The most penetrating forrein min^{rs}, especially y^e Dutch, do believe there is none yet concluded, though I do know of some underground conveighancing in y^e court of Berlin y^t w^d make a man think we are never safe. But y^t which goes a great way wth me is y^t y^e El^r hath great need to be within y^e interest of France, because y^t will secure the pretensions of his second son flowing from his marriage with the heiresse of Pr^{ce} Radzeville family. Nor is it easily to be imagin'd how y^e El^r sh^d upon y^e suddain set up and maintain force and figure, and adventure upon reprizalls ag^t y^e crown of Spain without assurance of protection from France, it being certain that when y^e Elector made his peace with France there was no league or intrigue (no, not so much as y^t of a secret article) between them. I am, &c.

Mr. Savile.

CXXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Whitehall, y^e 12th Febr. [1681].

I have y^e favour of yours of y^e 15th curr^t N. S. to acknowledge. I must beg your patience about Massaldi and y^e Gascon till I do learn

his Mat^{ies} pleasure at y^e Com^e on Sunday. What you write of the no very dreadfull preparations at sea on that side gives his Mat^{ie} (who hath just now read your letter) great ease.

Besides the malicious lyes that have their rise here and come to trouble and possesse the world on y^t side, we have dayly mortifications from all quarters. This day we have S^r W^m Waller and S^r. W^m Poultney chosen at Westm^r. Sheriff [Slingsby] Bethel and [Edward] Smyth are now polling agst two very honest men in Southwark,^a and the elections gen^{ly} speaking are very naught. There was need of y^e King's letter yesterday to prevent y^e Artillery Company and Londⁿ horse^m from choosing S^r Tho. Player for their leader; ney, 'tis to be fear'd they would have chosen the Duke of Monmouth for their captain had not their court been adjourn'd.

I inclos'd you a mem^l of y^e French Amb. with the relation y^t it is grounded upon.^b His Mat^{ie} hath ordered a restitution with effect, if y^e case be as pretended. I trouble you with y^e case, to y^e end you may not be unprovided what to say in case you should have anything complain'd of to you on that score. I am, &c.

Mr. Savile.

CXL.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

MR. SAVILE,

14 Feb. [1681].

Yours of the 15th curr^t N. S. was read yesterday at y^e com^{ee}, his Mat^{ie} being present. He was not pleas'd to order anything touching Massaldi's and the Gascon's coming hither for y^e very reasons inti-

^a The return for Westminster was unopposed. The "two very honest men" in Southwark were Sir Richard How, knt., and Sheriff of London in 1678, a colonel of the Southwark trained bands, and Peter Rich, Esq., the former members, who were re-elected. Nearly 3,000 persons polled, but it was said that not more than 1,800 or 1,900 had a right to vote.

^b The release of French ships seized at Tangier.

mated in your letter. But the King would owe them a courtesy if they could point out to us where Kelly is, whereby some attempt might be made to bring him to condigne punishment. I sent you last post a mem^l of y^e French Ambass^{rs}. I now send you y^e orders his Ma^{tie} is pleas'd to comand to be sent to V. Adm^l Herbert in that affaire.

CXLI.

HENRY SAVILE to Secretary L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

St,

St. Germain, Feb. $\frac{15}{25}$, 1681.

I have yours of y^e 7th, where I find Mon^r Barillon has given you the same hopes wee have had heer, that y^e differences about the claims of this crowne in the empire will bee referr'd to conferences to be composed *a l'amiable*. Time is to decide whether our hopes are well or ill grounded: I confesse myselfe not very sanguin in this point. Whatever the place bee, I wish it may have better luck then Courtray, where Mon^r Pellettier is not yet arrived, though wee were heer told a monthe agoe that he was gone streight thither, but hee has been since employed in visiting severall fortifications in those partes, and noe meeting has been to prevent further inconveniences, soe that now wee are assured Mon^r de Bussy is ordered with 3,000 foot, and a considerable body of dragons to besiege Wurton. The Dutch Ambassd^r has this morning had a warme dispute about it with Mon^r de Croissy, who partly denyed it, and partly justified it, and all in a very angry cholericke manner as y^e Amb^r tells me. I intend to trye if I can find him in a cooler temper upon y^e same subject to-morrow.

As for your query concerning the El. of Brandenburg, I doe assure you it is a great while I have watched that matter with my utmost skill, and, if I would have been satisfied with the asseverations of his friends and ministers, or with the account Mr. Pooley sends mee from

his court; I might have sate down in full security in that perticuler, but I could never answer to myself the extreame need that Elect^r has of the friendship of this crowne, both in his pretensions in Poland and against Spaine, and I am convinc'd that for the latter there was an absolute promise of assistance from hence had it been necessary in his dispute about the shipp, and I am now by good arguments further induced to beleieve that projects of treatyes have pass'd on both sides, and who knowes but Mon^r de Gourville when hee is in those parts may conclude one. I have heard the morrality of that Elect^r will beare such an action without giving notice first to his friends. Mon^r de Gourville begins his journey on Monday next: hee tells me hee will wayte upon the Prince of Parma in his passage by Bruxelles, and upon the Prince of Orange at the Hague, and I am apt to beleieve hee intends to bee at the great hunting match hee soe much discoursed of. . . .

I am thus farr in my answer to yours of y^e 7th, when another of the 10th arrives, which brings me a copy of Mon^r Barillon's memoriall concerning the shippes detained at Tanger, of w^{ch} I presume I shall heare noe further, since hee has soe satisfactory an answer from his Maj^{ty}. I wishe I could obtaine as good a one heer in favour of some Englishe merchants whose goods were seised at the siege of Messina; and they have kept them longer a great deale then they could the island.

The great reception of the P. of Orange at Amsterdam was noe welcome newes heer noe more then what is lately come from Bavaria, that that Elect^r had sent to see the daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Eysenach, who is said to bee very handsome: a matche there would wholly frustrate all the designses for madamoyselle, for which this court is extreame earnest.

Yesterday for the first time the Dolphin was admitted to come to to councell, but it was onely that which is called *Le conseil des depeches*, relating to ordinary things in the provinces; but what relates to the sea, the warr, the finances, or foreigne affayres, is not

yet debated before him. . . . I am, Sir, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec. L. Jenkins.

CXLII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, Feb. $\frac{19}{20}$, '80-1.

I am a debtor for two of yours, in one of which you send me Mr. Guy's apology, that is so much the more kind, as it was less necessary. I thought it justice to acquaint him with a report I had heard, and I must think it so too; to believe his denial in the manner he gave it; so that matter giveth no further occasion to enlarge upon it. I find my "not guilty" is a fault that groweth less with you, and that I am already half absolved in your opinion for my part in that business; if I know you aright, I think a little more time will undeceive you as much in the other parts of my charge, and rescue you from a mistake which the torrent of the times hath made so general, that I am too just to impute it as a fault to you. When you write to our young man, from whom I have not heard this good while, since your opinion agreeth with mine in it, pray encourage him to think it reasonable to look homewards. The changes made lately at court have removed some of your friends, but those who are now thought to have the greatest credit are I believe well enough inclined to continue all kinds of good offices to you; yet if at any time you can think, that at this distance, and in my present circumstances, it may be of use to you that I should say any thing concerning you, upon the least notice I am ready to obey. I continue in the resolution of going to Oxford, if the parl^t meeteth at the time, the avoiding it being so scandalous, that the considerations of prudence are not to be admitted. In the mean time if your approbation of a calm and an easy life is not the effect of some sudden rapture, but a contemplation raised from a steady and deliberate thought, I could say more

to encourage you to continue it than perhaps is fit to preach to a man in your circumstances, that is in the way of succeeding in a busy world, and it might look like betraying you to tempt you to the pleasures of ease and retreat. You are to take heed of Horace, who, though he supp'd with Augustus at N. Chevin's, could not keep in a thousand sentences, of which every one well thought upon is enough to destroy not only the preferment, but the very calling, of a statesman or a courtier. You are not to hearken in this case to the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely, and yet I lament with you from the bottom of my heart that there must be no mean between such brothers as use one another scurvily at home, and such who, though united by their kindness, are divided by different circumstances and employments, and instead of the pleasure of living under the same roof must be content with a kind absence, which is well, but it is absence still, whilst in the meantime we are forced to seek friends and company that grow in other soils, tho' perhaps not superior to what we might find in our own, besides the natural satisfaction of living upon what is of our own growth. I have sent your letter to our cousin Parson, and shall take care for a slender present to the nurse when the time cometh. I am for ever yours.

CXLIII.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter-book, Extracts.]

Sr,

Wh^m 21 Febr. '80-1.
3 March

His Ma^{tie} does conceive y^t you have already had a generall order to engage jointly with any min^{rs} of the States Generall upon all matters of complaints or other incidents relating to Spain. I have in command to repeat, revive, and confirme y^t order.

His Ma^{tie} would have you use instances on the behalfe of y^e English merchants who had their goods seized at y^e siege of Messina;

'tis possible they on y^t side may be moved with y^e quick deliverance his Ma^{tie} hath ordered to y^e ship detained at Tanger.

We have not a syllable here of the siege of Wirton or Wurton; ney I have three l^{res} of y^e 8, 11, and 15 curr^t from S^r Rich^d Bulstrode, and not a word about any such thing.

Mr. Savile.

CXLIV.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, Marche 1st 1681, N. S.

In my last I tolde you I would speake to the same purpose the Dutche ambassador had done before mee, which I have accordingly done and with the same successe, the reasonableness of the late order to Mon^r de Bussy beeing justified by the dependance they say Wurton is found to have had to the Byshoprick of Toul,^a and the delays of Mon^r Christin being the occasion this as well as all other matters have not been adjusted at Courtray. How frivolous this is I need not observe to you, but surely they must want excuses extremely when they dispute whose Commiss^{rs} shall bee first upon the place, a cavill that would better become silly weomen, who scolde for ranke, then these great statesmen who are to putt the world at quiett. I presume you know Mon^r de Bussy's order is not to besiege the place, but onely to sumon it, and upon refusall to surrender to quarter 4,000 men in Luxembourg, which amongst other inconveniences will render that province incapable of maintaining the 300

^a On 8th April, 1681, H. Savile wrote to Secretary Jenkins, saying, "To-morrow the Spanish Amb^r is to have an audience: hee will acquaint this King with the resolutions taken by the Prince of Parma to evacuate Wirton and leave it wholly to the possession of the Frenche, desiring at the same time all this King's troopes may marche out of Luxembourg, and that the conferences at Courtray may put an end to all other disputes betwixt the two crownes; how hee will succeed in this latter part of his addresse I will not undertake to tell you."

horse they have agreed to keep constantly in pay by a bargain projected by the Duke of Villa-hermosa, and lately finished by the Prince of Parma . . .

From thence (Spain) we heare alsoe that the Marquis de Villars, now Ambass^{dr} from this court to that, has given some dissatisfaction by his intriguing there, which has occasioned that King to desire this to recall him, which can hardly bee well denyed, since it is soe lately that upon the like request his Cath^{olic} Maj^{ty} recalled the Duke of Giovenazzo hence, though there was no subject of complaint but onely that his humour (or rather I beleeeve his abilityes) were to bee apprehended . . .

The Comm^{rs} for religion doe still proceed to destroy temples in all places; that of Cayn in Normandy escaped narrowly about a monthe since, but that of Quarenten was condemned, and the reason given because it was too neer the coaste of England, which frights those of Dieppe,^a though theires is named in the Edict of Nantes . . .

I am, Sir, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CXLV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Rufford, March $\frac{9}{19}$ th, '80-1.

I have yours of the 8th your style, and return you the thanks of old Rufford for your favourable opinion of it; I concur with you so much that I assure you, with all its faults, I had much rather stay here than go, to Oxford; but a man in my circumstances must either appear or give up, and, not being humble enough yet to do that, I am resolved nothing shall discourage me from doing the other. My

^a In his next letter of the 8th March, he says:—"Eight sea-officers were putt out of their employments the last weeke, onely for being of the religion, and such methods are taken that within a yeaere there will not bee any left unlesse perhaps the age and merite of Mon^r de Quesne may get him alone excepted."

discretion will be but a slender security, but what that wanteth I hope my innocence and good meaning will supply. How far your Charonton prayers will prevail for a man that is voted a promoter of popery^a I do not know, but I would not discourage your devotion let it be never so much misapply'd. I find I have raised your curiosity, and, which is a cruel thing, it is not time yet to satisfy it, for though there is somewhat of what you mention, yet you do not take all my meaning, and instead of explaining it, I would make you a proposition, which I think may be of use to you, if your circumstances will permit it; I would offer it to you to ask leave to come over for ten days, and it must be done immediately, because of the uncertainty of the continuance of the Parl^t. The end of this is, that you may see and consider the scene now that it is changed, examine how many of your old friends deserve to be kept, and what new ones are necessary to be made, settle yourself in your master's mind, and offer some antidotes against the poison some may endeavour to infuse into it. You must not be so humble as not to think yourself big enough to be talk'd of, and therefore it concerneth you the more to study the present map of the Court, that you may not take wrong measures, and, instead of making a progress, go back in the making your fortune. It is not possible to write the particular reasons, but I think if you can prevail with yourself to do it, it may be very advantageous to you. This meeting at Oxford is very criticall; there may be short turns and sudden changes, and in those cases it is very convenient to be upon the place. Do what you will, now

^a Burnet described Halifax as "not only not a papist, but not even a Christian." (Dalr. App. 302, 310.) In the satire entitled, "A young gentleman desirous to be a minister of state thus pretends to qualify himself," these lines are given :

That we may assume the churches weal,
And all disorder in religion heal,
I will espouse Lord Hall[ifax]'s zeal.

James called him an atheist and republican: no one however can read the excellent chapter "on Religion" in Halifax's "Advice to a Daughter," without finding that he was not only no atheist, but was impressed with the pure, mild, and charitable rules of Christianity.

that I have told you my opinion. Harry telleth me he will be in Paris in April, where he shall find my letter to invite him over hither. I shall not protest your bill, but I hope you will acquaint Sr W. Coventry with it, that I may be acquitted. I will press Mr. Hyde when I see him in your behalf, and I hope he will continue as you have ever found him, very kind to you. My wife and daughter send you their complements, and I am for ever yours.

CXLVI.

SAME to SAME.

Oxford, March ²⁹/₈, '81.

I have just now received yours, and would not have thought it necessary to return so quick an answer to it, but that I conceive it proper to acquaint you that this morning the Parl^t was dissolved after having sat only a week, but there were such foundations lay'd for heat and dispute, that the King thought it advisable to part with them. Things of this kind are sure to have comments made upon them, and it is not proper at this distance to enlarge upon this subject, so that you must be content to reserve the satisfying your curiosity till you come over, for w^{ch} I would have ask'd leave here, but that your letter came some time after the King went to London, and Mr. Hyde with him; but I will send to him to move the King for leave, and, though I shall not perhaps be in town when you come, intending to return to Rufford, yet I hope you will have time enough allow'd you to contrive how we may meet: in the mean time Mr. Hyde telleth me he hath lately supply'd you with a quarter's payment, and as things are now in the Treasury you must be content to be in some arrear. If you come over, I suppose money will be less necessary to you than it would have been if you had gone to Bourbon, which you will not think of if the French Embassadour informeth me right, that the K. of France hath put off that journey.

I am so interrupted that I cannot make this any longer, and am just going to Bibury to give a visit to S^r W. Coventry. Adieu.

CXLVII.

SAME to SAME.

Rufford, April $\frac{2}{19}$ th, '81.

I am come home again sooner than I expected, though I made my stay from hence some days longer by a visit to our friend at Bibury.^a I have not yet received the letter you have sent by a French gentleman, and therefore had not writ now, but that just now Mr. Hyde sendeth me word leave is given you to come over,^b of which I suppose you will have notice before this cometh to you; so that I am only to wish you a good journey, and to put you in mind that, besides the necessity there is for many reasons that I should see you before you return, old Rufford is not content with your commendations alone, but expecteth a visit from you. If Harry should come to Paris before you leave it, pray encourage him to come along with you, for there are some reasons that make it convenient for him to be here as soon as may be. Hoping to see you ere long, I will not add any more but that I am ever yours.

CXLVIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

S^r,Paris, April 26, 1681.^c

The Muscovite Ambass^{drs} are arrived heer, and goe this day to

^a The seat of Sir W. Coventry.

^b The leave was communicated by Sir L. Jenkins in a letter of $\frac{4}{14}$ April, as having been given on the application of Lord Halifax to the King.

^c On the 1st April 1681, Charles II. had entered into a new treaty with France, which was so secret that the terms even were not committed to writing, and were known only to Hyde. The letters from Lord Halifax, Sir L. Jenkins, and H. Savile, make it certain that

Court; what hawkes, furs, beares, or businesse they have brought I am not yet informed. . . .

You may have observed in the gazettes of late, the number of prosylytes to the Roman church in Poictou, of which I beleieve one of the most prevayling arguments is taking halfe the taxes from the new converts and placing them upon those who remayne firme, that whilst they gett soules for God Almighty (as they call it) the King may loose noe money; all other mortifications of quartering souldiers, &c. are not omitted.

The bankers heer continue breaking, and noe day passes but wee heare of some considerable one. I am told Mon^r Colbert threatens to hang two or three for an example, that hee thinkes may prevent the like inconveniencies for y^e future

I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most obedient servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CXLIX.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

April $\frac{20}{30}$, '81.

If you have kept the resolution you had when you writ last, this will find you at London, from whence if you come out next Monday, and that your kindness will bring you half way hither, I do in the name of Rufford desire you will make the whole journey, let your stay here be never so short. I do not stand upon any forms with you, but it would just at this time be more inconvenient to me than ordinary to stir from hence; and that your journey may be the

no one of them was aware of it. The terms were that Charles should disengage himself from the alliance with Spain; that he should either not call a Parliament, or prevent it from taking any measures against France; and that he should receive a pension of two millions of crowns for one year, and 500,000 for two years after. (Dalr. App. 301). All the subsequent correspondence with Henry Savile at Paris conveying any orders from Charles must be read therefore by the light now afforded by this secret treaty.

less uneasy to you, if you will send me word by the next, my coach shall wait for you at Colesworth, the time you will appoint it. If Harry had not been very slow in his motion from Italy he might have been time enough at Paris to have come over with you. My wife and daughter send you their complements, and I am ever yours.

CL.

SAME to SAME.

Rufford, April 30, '81.
May 10

This is only to congratulate your arrival and to thank you for the hopes you give me of seeing you here, and of bringing your nephew with you: if Sr T. Clarges continueth in the disposition of making me a visit, he will perhaps be tempted to hasten it by the invitation of having so good company as yours. I need not tell you how big I am with the expectation of such a kind meeting: that which is more necessary is to put you in mind of sending before to me, to let me know where and when you would have my coach wait for you. The women return you their complements.

Pray make my L^d Clare a visit, and excuse that which he thought an omission in you formerly.

CLI.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, June 21, 1861.

Though I came hither on Thursday^a night, both myselfe and my equipage were too weary to goe yesterday to Versailles, but designe goeing there this afternoon, and shall probably bee better able to entertain you the next poste then this; in the mean time I am thank-

^a He was allowed 400 crowns (91*l*. 13*s*. 4*d*.) for the expenses of his journey. (Secret Service Expenses, p. 31.)

fully to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 6th,^a by which I may guesse in what temper I shall find the Dutch Ambass^{dr} heer, who doubtlesse will echo what his colleague on your side shall further propose, though I should hardly have thought his last memoriall likely to bee seconded by another of y^e same kind.

Yesterday the Procureur Generall presented four new briefs of the Pope to the Parliament, which had the same reception the others have had: it is wonderfull such a stirr should bee kept up in a matter that must end quietly at last. . . .

The *chambre ardente* begins to flame more then ever, three poor wretches were burnt yesterday; but in the midst of this new prosecution of those matters the Duke of Luxembourg is purged without fire, and has leave to returne to court to wayte in his place. The Comte de Lauzun^b is not yet soe happy for having drunk the waters at Bourbon: hee is sent to Pierre Excise at Lyons, where hee remaynes in as strict, though not in soe remote a confinement as at Pignerol, where hee was before; yet I am credibly told the treaty concerning his enlargement does yet continue. . . . I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

^a In this letter the Secretary had said, "Wee are bid heer to expect another men^{ll} from the Dutch Amb^r to the same effect I told you of. I am loath to give a guess why they should at this time presse to doe things that we are not obliged to by treaty, much less invited by reason and y^e present circumstances. *Nulla dies sine linea* of an address is the truth at Windsor." (Letter Book.)

^b On 16th April, 1681, Savile had said, "Mon^r de Lauzan, after neer tenn yeares imprisonment, has leave to come to Bourbon with guardes to drinke the waters, and twenty mousquetaires are gone hence for that purpose; 'tis said hee shall returne to Pignerol again and continue in his confinement, but the whisper of the Court provides better for him, and 'tis there thought hee shall have his liberty purchased by Madamoyselle de Montpensier at the price of her principality of Dombes, which upon these termes shee will give to the Duke de Mayne; of this wee shall soon know the truth. The Duchesse of Bouillon, after fifteen monthes banishment, is alsoe permitted to returne to Court." (MSS. State Paper Office.) Lauzun had offended Louis by a bond of secret marriage with Mad^{le} de Montpensier, but was sent to the prison of Pignerol in Nov. 1671, for having hid himself under the bed to overhear the conversation of the King with Madame de Montespan.

CLII.

Sir L. JENKINS to H. SAVILE.

[Secrétary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, June $\frac{13}{23}$, '81.

I perceive by y^e French Amb^r (with whom I spoke this morning at Windsor) that there is no likelihood that y^e French will desist from their pretensions to Chinay: all he had to say was (when I pressed him to write home effectually, to y^e end those violences sh^d cease and y^e conferences at Courtray go on,) y^t he did wish and hope y^e Spaniards w^d accommodate themselves to y^e demands of y^e French in this point of Chinay, in regard they (y^e French) had a good title to it, and y^t it covered the French frontiers.

His Ma^{ty} desires you to know of y^e Duke de Gramont whence it is that he has his Spanish tobacco that he uses, for y^e King says it is excellently good.

The sending of my Lord Howard of Escreech^a to y^e Tower is y^e common entertainment of this day and yesterday: y^e particulars you will have from other hands. I am, with very good truth and esteem, &c.

Mr. V. Chamberlain.

^a Lord Howard of Escrick was charged by FitzHarris with having given instructions for the libel for which FitzHarris was in prison, and FitzHarris called him as a witness on his (FitzHarris's) own trial. (State Trials, viii. 370.) The grand jury threw out the bill against Lord Howard; and Secretary Jenkins, writing on 23rd June, (*i. e.* 3rd July,) said, "Wee had an ill day yesterday at Westminster Hall, for y^e grand jury w^d not find y^e bill of indictment against the Lord Howard, tho' y^e evidence was such as grand juries satisfy themselves withall." (Letter Book.) There was however a discrepancy in the evidence of the witnesses. Neither Lord Howard's own solemn protestation previous to his receiving the Sacrament, that he had been in no way concerned in or privy to any part of the libel, nor his humble petition to the King asserting his innocence and beseeching to be discharged with or without bail, could procure his enlargement (Ralph i. 607); he was detained in the Tower till after the failure of the prosecution against the Earl of Shaftesbury: he was then liberated on bail, and escaped to take his disreputable part in the depositions relating to the Rye House Plot in 1683.

CLIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

Sr,

Paris, June 25, '81.

Since my last I have yours of y^e 9th, and in it the welcome account of FitzHarris his tryall, w^{ch} I am heartely glad is soe well over.^a

This afternoon I am to meet with the Spanish and Dutch Ambass^{rs}, where wee shall agree what measures to take, and you may bee sure I shall act in every thing as is pursuant to my orders; but the truth is, I find them and all who wishe them well soe out of heart that I expect to heare more complaining of the present posture of affairs then contriving how to mend them.

I forgott in my last to mention the generall assembly of the clergy of France appointed to meet in this towne on the 15 of September, in w^{ch} the Pope is to bee threatened with the making a patriarke of the Gallicane Church, but I presume matters will hardly goe so high, though in the meantime in a new edict coming out to answer the Pope's late briefs, one article will bee that noe subject of this kingdome shall for the future ever open any briefe from the Pope, but bring it sealed to the Procureur Generall, who shall open it, and according to the tenour of it shall give an account to the Parliament.

The Huguenots are in dayly expectation of a very severe edict

^a Edward FitzHarris had been sent to the Tower 11th March O. S. 1680-1. On 6th June O. S. Mr. Secretary Jenkins wrote to Savile, "Mrs. FitzHarris has braved the Queen's Bench to that point as to desire that her husband may be sure to come to his tryall on Thursday next;" and on 9th June O. S., "Mr. FitzHarris is this day found guilty of the treason charg'd against him; the evidence was very clear; the foreman of the jury rais'd some scruples upon the late votes in parliament, but was satisfied by the court, which did its part with great gravity and weight of reason: the pannell was of very disaffected men, yet the jury proved not refractory, so as to resist the light of their evidence." (Letter Book. State Trials, viii. 388.)

against them, by which any of their children shall be capable of choosing their religion at seven years old: how this will correct the chastisements of their parents, and how it will expose them to the temptations of the seducers, is enough apparent. In Poitou the quartering soldiers upon them has made so many proselytes that the same trick is to be tried in Languedoc, and 500 dragons are ordered to march thither for that purpose.

The Comte de Muntfield, the Emperor's minister here, has frequent conferences with Messieurs de St. Romaine and de Harlay, this King's commissioners for the conferences at Frankfort; but, though they appear to hasten their equipage in order to their journey, I hear by other ways there is not such great dispatch intended.

From Brest and Rochfort I am assured they work very hard in order to the building the forty ships I mentioned to you about two months since, of which not one is to exceed forty guns, nor to carry less than twenty-six.

This is all that occurs at present; to which I can only add my being most respectfully, Sr, your most faithful and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLIV.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Paris, June 28, '81.

Having conferr'd with y^e Amb^{d^{rs}} according to the tenour of my last, I found the Spanyard full of complaints, and very earnest to have us use all possible means to redress their grievances; to w^{ch} I answered "with all the readynesse imaginable;" but the Dutch Amb^r would not goe so fast, owning himselfe more limited in his orders, which can justifie him no farther then in speaking to the ministers; nor do he expect any to addresse to the King himselfe

till the King our master shall have given his answer to the last memoriall of Mon^r Van Citters, upon which the States will build theire answer to a memoriall given them by Mon^r de Fuen-mayor, as well as theire further orders to theire Amb^{dr} heer.^a This beeing the case, I easily convinced the Spanish Amb^{dr} that it was not reasonable I should goe alone in this matter, but rather stay till Mon^r Stermberg had such orders as would permitt him to goe hand in hand with mee; that in the mean time I was willing to goe as farr as hee could, soe that wee have joyntly agreed to speake to Monsieur de Croissy, of which I expect noe great effect. By this you will percieve the States resolve to putt us in the vann, and will make noe stepp but what the King our master shall make before them, thinking to justifie themselves to all Christendome in taking the same measures for the preservation of Flanders that the King of England shall doe, whom they thinke equally concerned for the losse of it, and will allow noething for y^e present circumstances of his domestick affaires.

In Alsatia (besides the garrisons) there are three armyes encamped, consisting in all of 60,000 men: one att Saar-Louis commanded by Mon^r de Monelar, one at Hunninguen under Mon^r de Boufflers, and a third in Lindau under Mon^r de Bellondre. What bodyes are in Loraine and Flanders I cannot yet averr, but they speake of 40,000 men to be under the command of the Mar^{ll} de Crequy, as all in Alsatia shall bee under the Mar^{ll} de Luxembourg; but these are yet onely discourses.

Mad. La Dauphine continues soe ill of her feavour, that if shee bee not in danger shee is but just of this side of beeing soe.

^a In his answer of 23 June (*i. e.* 3 July) Mr. Secretary Jenkins said, "I see the Dutch Amb^r there would have you undertake y^e forlorn hope on y^t side. This is consonant to what the Dutch Amb^r here hath now of late press'd for, vizt., a declaration of what his Maj^{ty} will doe in case of further molestations and insults of y^e French upon the Spaniards. Mr. Van Citters hath taken a turn into Holland, and Mr. Sidney arriv'd here yesterday; who tells us of a wonderfull opinion y^t is entertained abroad of y^e beeing of our affaires upon the mending hand." (Letter Book.)

I send you enclosed the edict concerning the Pope's briefs, as likewise a little newes from the *chambre ardente*. As anything further happens within my knowledge and worthy yours you may bee sure of it from, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLV.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Paris, July 24, 1681.

I have yours of the 13, and presume the discourse you had with Mon^r de Barillon concerning Chiny to bee what Mon^r de Croissy meant yesterday when hee told the Dutch Amb^{dr} "*Le Roy s'est expliqué au Roy de La Grande Bretagne sur cett' affaire.*" In the mean time, it is brave rhetorick when it must passe for a reason for having Chiny that it covers the French frontieres, which is as much as to say it uncovers the Spanish ones. As to my owne behaviour in this matter, which the Marquis de Fuentes thinkes is not observing my orders, and for ought I know he may make Dom Pedro de Ronquillos of the same opinion, and that may at last produce a complaint to my master, I have thought my stubbornesse for his service and honour; for, as I would have given any memoriall the S^p and Dutch Amb^{dres} would have given, soe I did not nor doe not conceive that I have any orders to act singly in the Spanishe concernes; and, having gone hand in hand with the Dutch Ambassadors till most three yeares, I shall not make mysele theire catt's foot without very perticuler orders. I have never during this employment spoake without them but once, and wee saw the successe of it was that what was refused mee (concerning the title of Burgundy) at Dunkirque was granted the Dutch at Valenciennes; nor is it hard to guesse the reasons of that distinction at that time. I am very ready to obey any orders you shall please to send mee; but whilst I find any latitude in them I shall bee

apt to use the Dutch like tyred horses, if they will not follow they must bee driven before. And since I could not bring this Amb^{dr} to give a good strong memoriall to this King I have made him speake first to Mon^r de Croissy, though my opinion is wee had as good speake to any other common man, and it would bee the same thing; for, though the Spanyards are ever pressing us to speake to the ministers, and are soe jealous that they think it want of affection if wee refuse, wee doe but lessen our credit by our frequent complaints of every triviall infraction, onely accustoming ourselves to refusalls, when wee should certainly doe our masters better service in speaking onely on great occasions to the King himselfe; giving such memorialls as might shew the irregularity of both proceedings, which if they had noe other effect would at least remayne as recordes to posterity that in the eminent danger of Flandyr the neighbouring princes used their best endeavours to preserve it by wordes, not beeing in a condition to do it by swordes.

The edict I mentioned in one of my last concerning the Huguenots and their children dos soe alarum them that they are making extraordinary deputations to the King to prevent it. By y^e next poste I shall give you a better account of it. In the mean time our want of a bill of naturalization is a most cruell thing in this conjuncture.^a

The Dutchesse de Fontanges dyed soe few houres before my last that I did not then know it. Shee was not twenty yeares old; a notable example of fading beauty and short liv'd greatnesse.

Madame La Dauphine dos not yet mend.

^a In his letter of 5th July Henry Savile said further: "Old Mon^r de Ruvigny has given a memoriall to the King concerning the edict comeing forth about the children of the Huguenots. The King said hee would consider of it, but these poor people are in such feare that they hurry their children out of France in shoales, not doubting but this edict wille soon bee followed by another to forbid their sending them out of the kingdome. I will confidently averr that had a bill of naturalization pass'd in England last winter, there had been at least fifty thousand soules pass'd over by this time." (See also letter CLXI post.)

I spoake to the Duke of Grammont, who tells mee hee has his Spanishe snuff from Victoria in Spaine, and that hee dos dayly expect a parcell from thence, the which hee will send to his Maj^{ty} if hee like that. Meethinks Sr Harry Goodrick might find meanes to send yet better from Madrid; but his Maj^{ty} used to like some that is made heer, of which I shall send a freshe supply next week by Sr Richard Mason.

Mr. Soame is gone towards Turin, counting to reach Lyons this day. I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLVI.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Windsor, June 26
July 6, '81.

I am in debt to you for yours since your arrival at Paris, and deferred my answer in hopes I might have given you some account of my L^d Windsor's treaty with his friend for your place, but it seemeth he desireth some more time to consider of it, which must not be refused, because too much pressing might make you have the worse bargain. Your letters were read yesterday to the King and approved, but I may spare the pains of mentioning particulars, having seen my L^d Hyde's letter, where, besides the information he giveth you concerning y^r business, telleth you at the same time how much a moral reflection of yours was applauded first by our master, and then by all the company; you may see by this, we have a conceit left still, notwithstanding the condition of Christendome, and the late election of the sheriffs. Mr. Fitsharris is to suffer next Friday. My L^d of Kingston is come over and sayeth he had seen you, but you were gone to Versailles; but that which will be the greatest news to you, my family is coming up this week, and I must lose the joy of being in the country now that the rain hath made it so delicious. Adieu.

CLVII.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

Sr,

Whitehall, ^{27 June}/_{7 July}, '82.

Yours of 25th and 28th June and of y^e 2nd July were read yesterday before his Ma^{ty} at the Committee. My Lords did very much applaud your resolution and conduct in keeping yourself close to those steps and advances that the Dutch Amb^r shall think fit to make upon y^e infractions of the French upon Spain. His Ma^{ty} does perfectly approve of it likewise, and you will I doubt not continue y^e same y^t you are now in; the main argument that Mr. Van Leewen used this time 12 months to bring us into a defensive treaty with Spain, was y^t y^e Dutch would goe *pari passu* with us in all things, but now they would set us upon this forlorn hope. The election of y^e Sheriffs of London fell strangely short of expectation,^a it was carried by the numbers of y^e *vraye canaille*. I am, &c.

Mr. Savile.

CLVIII.

H. SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, July 9th, 1681.

Yesterday Mr. Kerne (one of those who are called the foure ruffians that went to Windsor about taking away the King's life) came to acquaint mee that hee resolved to go immediately into England

^a The numbers were, for the old Sheriffs:—Pilkington 3144, and Shute 2244; whilst the Court candidates had only:—Box 1266, and Nicholson 84. The freemen at a Common Hall agreed upon an address to the throne praying for the calling of a Parliament, and Secretary Jenkins, writing on the 7th (i.e. 17th) June, said, "My Lord Mayor and the two Sheriffs presented this day the petition of Common-hall to his Ma^{ty} and rece^d a good sound reprimand from my L^d Ch^r for their paines; none of the Aldermen did accompany my Lord Mayor, they having absolutely refused to do it at a Court of Aldermen last night." Letter-Book. The speech of the Chancellor is printed in Ralph (i. 590).

and stand his tryall,^a in order to which hee will deliver himself up to you, humbly begging his Ma^{ty} that, since hee intends to surrender himself, noething may be done in the mean time to his prejudice, nor noe grant passe because of his outlawry to dispose of the Marq. dowager of Worcester, to whom hee is married, hee beeing informed that a great Lady of her relations either allready had begg'd her or designs to doe soe: this was the substance of his discourse to mee, which I engaged to lay fairly before you. . . .

I shall add noe-thing further at present but beeing, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CLIX.

SAME TO SAME.

[Ibid.]

S^r

Paris, July 12, '81.

Yours of June 23 was very welcome, seeming to approve my refusall to proceed in the Spanishe affaires unlesse accompanied by the Dutch Ambassadour, whose masters are bound by treaty as much as ours to assist this persecuted allye.

The enclosed memoriall that I went' in all haste to present yesterday at Versailles will tell you of the accident that hapned the night before to my Lord William Hamilton, who lay extreame ill: The curate (of St. Sulpice) comeing at midnight, (when his servants were weary and retired and hee left alone with a nurse,) tormented him about his religion, telling him it tooke date onely from Harry the 8th, and such like stuffe. The young Lord, though very weake, tooke a little bell, and ringing it att his own ease, told the curate that

^a He had been tried at Hertford in 1679 as a popish priest and acquitted. (State Trials, vii. 707.) FitzHarris in his confession accused Kerne and others with the design of seizing upon the King's person. Kerne's trial took place in the King's Bench, 22 June, 1682, when he challenged nineteen of the jury. Neither Dr. Oates nor Mr. Jennison appeared, and, the Attorney-General having no evidence to offer, Kerne was acquitted. (N. Luttrell's Diary, i. 196.)

noise should drowne his, and hee would not hearken to what hee said; soe the curate pray'd by him till the people of the house came in and perswaded him to retire. This is done contrary to the expresse words of the edict (though it had reached strangers, which it dos not), the curate not beeing to visite sick Huguenots but as introduc'd by a Commissary, who had before refused to take any cognizance of the sicknesse of this Lord, as being a subject of the King our master's. I discours'd pretty warmly with Mon^r de Croissy upon this accident, and, finding the blame lye wholly upon the curate, and the Englishe heer extreemly alarum'd at the thing, I proposed that the curate should come and aske my pardon, thinking that the smallest satisfaction could bee demanded; but Mon^r de Croissy told mee the K. his master would hardly^a ever enioyne the curate to doe that, and spoake of the curates of Paris as much greater men then I took them to bee: I then told him that all our nation was soe sensible of matters of this kind that something must be done to shew that I doe understand and doe not neglect the importance of it, that I lay'd the case plainly before him, that I would give an account of it to the King my master, whose pleasure was to bee my rule, and what hee would bee contented with must of course

^a In his letter of 16 July, H. Savile further reported, "Concerning the complaint I made in my last, notwithstanding the doubts of Mon^r. de Croissy, on Sunday last the curate of St. Sulpice (ordered by the Archbyshop to doe soe) came to my house and made mee his excuses for what he had done to my Lord William Hamilton, with assurances that hee would never more doe the like to any Protestant subject of the King our master's; so that, having gayned that point, I thinke this matter need bee noe more stirr'd; all those heer who thought themselves injured by the action thinking the reparation sufficient, as I hope the King himselfe will also doe. Pray S^r let this bee told my Lord of Arran, and that his brother continues in very little likelihood of recovery." On the 11th (*i. e.* 21st) August, Mr. Secretary Jenkins told Savile, "Your conduct in the affaire of Spain was perfectly approved of, and your zeal in my Lord William Hamilton's case very much commended. I have orders to speak to the French Ambassador on that subject, and to desire that some notice may be taken to the curé of that scandalous excess, soe as to prevent such abuses for the future." And further, on the 28th July (*i. e.* 7th August), "Your victory over the Curé of St. Sulpice is very much to the satisfaction of his Ma^y, who had an account of it in both your last letters this day at a Committee of foreign affaires." (Letter Book.)

satisfye mee; that hee might write his mind to Mon^r de Barillon, who might excuse the action to the King, but that I could not be perswaded but that something ought to bee done that might satisfye the King my master's Protestant subjects heer, very apt to bee frighted in this conjuncture, where soe many edicts came forth against the King his master's Protestant subjects, with whom wee ought noe more to share then the French Catholiks had done in England in the late occasions wee had had to use some severity to our owne. In a word, hee told mee he would know the King his master's mind in it, as I humbly begg to know that of ours, and whatever orders hee shall please to send mee I humbly conceive it were very advisable to say the same thing to Mon^r de Barillon, with some sorte of earnestenesse, matters of this nature admitting of noe medium, for either the King's subjects must live as quietly heer in point of religion as they doe every where else, or they must not come hither. Pray, Sr, be pleased to give some account of this accident to my Lord of Arran, that both his L^p and my L^d Duke of Hamilton may know I have not neglected my Lord William's concerne upon this occasion. . . .

I send you heer the terrible new edict concerning the children of the Huguenots. They are more sensible of this then all the former mortifications have been given them; but I designe you soe full an account of all these matters by a safer hand the next week, that I shall at present give you noe further trouble. I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLX.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

July 14th, '80.

You guess right that I am likely to stay in town, my family being now come up, which maketh me dispair of seeing Rufford again this

summer, though the late fine weather maketh me lament the being kept from it. Thus we small implements of state are abridged of the common liberty other men have, and yet are hated and envied instead of being pitied for it. My L^d of Kingston stay'd in town but two or three days, went to his grandfather in Wiltshire, and without returning hither cross'd the country to go into Nottinghamshire. I am glad of my cousin's preferment if the match goeth on with my L^d Thomas Howard,^a who in my opinion standeth fair to be Duke of Norfolk. It may be a tender thing for me to be a trustee, being at this time under such a character, but when I know of what nature it is I will either agree to it or give a good reason why I cannot. Your letters were read yesterday at the cabinet councill, and your proceeding approved concerning my L^d Hamilton, with directions to you what to do further, of which Mr. Secretary Jenkins will give you an account. I have gratify'd our young men abroad by sending for them home, and expect them the latter end of the summer. Our occurrences are all sent to you, so that I will not repeat them, and if I had anything more to say to you I am just now interrupted. Adieu.

CLXI.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, July 22, '81.

Notwithstanding Mon^r de Croissy told the Spanish Amb^{dr} on Saturday last that the King's troopes were marched into Luxembourg, yesterday the Dutch Amb^{dr} and myselfe had audience. I

^a Master of the Robes to James II., drowned at sea 9th Nov. 1689, married Mary Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Savile of Copley. His eldest brother Henry, Duke of Norfolk, died s. p. 1701; and Thomas the eldest, and Edward the second, sons of this marriage became successively Dukes of Norfolk, and so continued till 1777, both being Catholics. (Tierney's Arundel, ii. 553-562.)

send you copy of my memoriall, which his M.^c Majty promised to peruse. The further discourse betwixt us was thus: as soon as the Dutch Amb^{dr} went out of his closett I went in, and without staying for my speaking first, as hee has ever formerly done, hee asked mee aloud, laughing, if the paper in my hand were the copy of the Dutch Amb^{drs} memoriall? I told him noe, but I thought it was one to the same purpose, to desire him not to alarum his neighbours by ent'ring Luxembourg, soe long in the possession of the Spanyards, and by making them desperate renew the warr. Hee told mee the King my master was very well satisfyed he did not intend warr; if the Spanyards did hee could not helpe it; that the King my master was pressed to these sollicitations by the clamours of the Spanyards; that the Dutch Amb^{dr} hath talked to him of the Barriere, which was little to this purpose, that beeing designed only from the sea to Namur; that what hee had ordered his troopes to possess were only some villages in Luxembourg. I answered, those some villages were 522. Hee reply'd it was noe matter the number if hee thought them due to him, as hee was convinced they were by the treaty of Munster. I endeavoured to shew the invalidity of that pretention, considering the ensuing treatyes according to the arguments yourselfe was pleased to give mee. To which he made his usuall evasions, laying the fault upon the negligence of his ministers, which hee did not intend should hurt his pretentions. I then argued upon the unreasonableness of the proceedings of the chamber of Metz,^a shewing according to the tenour of the enclosed memoriall that noe other King had ever yet taken that method; to which he answered, "*Chasque roy a ses methodes*," with which wordes hee tooke my memoriall and concluded my audiance. I tell you all this discourse the more exactly, because I will leave our master and his ministers to their owne observations upon it, not mingling any of my owne further then to tell you that the D. Amb^{drs} audience, as well as my

^a The sovereign chamber of Metz declared that far the greatest part of Luxembourg and its dependencies were part of the bishoprick of Metz.

owne,^a was in an houres time the raillerye of the whole court, soe that now wee are arrived to the happy state the Span. Amb^{dr} has been in ever since his residing at this court . . .

And now, S^r, let mee say something concerning the Protestants of this kingdom. Theire present eminent suffrings are knowne to all Europe, and I leave to S^r Richard Mason to add such perticulars to what I have formerly writt as will I hope make our master sensible of theire calamities;^b and it may therefore not bee amisse to let him know what the world expects from him upon such an occasion, who is the chiefe Protestant prince in Europe. If hee bee not guarantee of the treaty of Nantes, at least hee is soe of one of y^e year 1626, which confirms that, and therefore is in as much right to take measures for maintaining that treaty as the late one att Nimeguen, of w^{ch} hee was mediatour; soe much is certain as to the right; whether hee should use it, and how farr, will bee the question. The first if not the onely objection will bee that upon his asking reliefe for the Protestants heer, this King will doe the like of him for the Papists in England; but upon what treaty can the King build such a pretention? or what parity is there in the conditions of these people? Wee have lawes of auntient date actually in force against our Cath^{ques}, and were never yet putt vigorously in execution; these people have positive lawes in theire favour, as positively broake for the persecution of them, notwithstanding the guarenty of a foreigne prince; a body of ours are actually found designing mischief to the government; the whole body of these are in perfect obedience, and have been soe personally serviceable to this very King that in one of his edicts hee dos himselfe owne the crowne upon his head to theire

^a The memorials presented by our minister at Paris upon this and a subsequent occasion and Savile's account of the Dutch Ambassador's recent instructions wholly negative Ralph's charge, that the Dutch had reason to despair for ever of the co-operation of England.

^b Bishop Burnet, (*Hist. of his Own Times*, i. 659,) under date of 1685, briefly alludes to these sufferings of the Protestants in France: but in Savile's letters they are fully stated, and to him belongs the honour of suggesting that wise course which turned the revocation of the Edict of Nantes to such an advantage for the future prospects of England.

services in the last civill warr; soe that this ought to bee noe very prevalent argument to hinder the King from pleading their cause, especcially when in all humane appearance both his foreigne and domestick concernes would receive new life from an avow'd protection of all the Protestants in Europe; a station God Almighty has soe long offer'd to his family, and would noe doubt upon soe sound a bottome make him flourish equally with a great predecessour of his owne, who found this the onely way to bee quiett in her life and glorious after it. Now should his Maj^{ty}s circumstances admitt of these measures, were not the properest method to begin with a declaration to all Europe in Frenche and Latin to offer countenance and encouragement to all such as receiving prejudice from the profession of the Prot. Rel. in any other countryes could come and harbour themselves in his? The effect of this would bee that noe restrictions whatsoever would hinder these people from going to him, who submit to their miseries heer for want of assurance of not finding as great elsewhere; whilst the misrepresentations given by some ill men of the present posture of our affaires make people ballance, who would flye into England upon the first publick assurance they should bee well received there. I have formerly urged upon the same subject to one of your predecessours the number of Frenche seamen of this religion, their willingnesse and easynesse of transportation, the considerable number of wealthy people ready with great sumes to come over to you; nay I had once (and hope upon good encouragement I could retrieve them), prepared a body of men y^t should have brought you the manufacture of sayle cloathe soe much wanted in England; but all this was upon the hopes of a bill of naturalization, which soe unfortunately fayling lessen'd my credit with them as well as my hopes of doing a considerable service to the nation. But all these matters may bee recovered again by a hearty declaration, by some sorte of commission established for strangers to addresse to upon their first arrivall, and by a banke in the City on purpose for this use, that men may convey their estates with great privacy. . . .

Though I have dwelt much too long upon this subject, I can not

omitt telling you the portes of France are stopp'd to all Protestants under the age of 16; 300 were upon it refused passage for England last week att Dieppe; and, though I know any prince may stopp his portes to his owne subjects, I question whether (in a case of noe crime) they can regularly bee debarr'd goeing into the territoryes of a prince in amity. I leave that circumstance as well as all others to your better judgement, craving pardon for this long trouble, w^{ch} I shall conclude with my most hearty wishes that his Maj^{ty} would concerne himselfe as farr in this matter as can consist with his power and dignity, to free these poor oppressed people, who are like to suffer all the miseries that can bee invented by the mallice of y^e Jesuits, and executed by y^e boundlesse power of this King, who in things of this nature has given himselfe soe wholly into their handes, that their credit with him has given jealousy to all his other ministers, whereof not one dos approve these methods, but are willing upon all occasions to declare they are not the authours of them. I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLXII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, July 28, '81.
Aug. 7,

I have yours by S^r R. Mason,^a and have seen that which you wrote to Secretary Jenkins, and they both afford considerable matter of reflexion; and for what you direct more particularly to myself I need not tell you how kindly I take it; and, though perhaps my suspicions may not be altogether so strong as yours, yet sure there is ground enough for me to have my cautions, being under such circumstances as I am, and having enemies of so many several colours; I know no better expedient to secure myself against all events than to build upon the same foundation and live by the same maxims I have ever done since my being in business, and to take care that in all

^a One of the commissioners for the office of Master of the Horse, and in Feb. 1684 one of the Clerks Comptrollers.

my actions there may be so much of the Protestant and the Englishman as may silence the objections of my being a papist or a pensioner.^a In particular I shall endeavour to justify my Protestantship by doing all that is in my power towards the encouragement of those that shall take sanctuary here out of France; though even in that, our present condition consider'd, there is great tenderness to be used in the manner of it, that we may give no occasion for a higher persecution against them there, or by disputing a prince's power over his own subjects draw a question upon us which would hardly be decided in our favour, and we are not strong enough to support our having the wrong end of an argument. Upon this occasion I must give you a hint to be wary in your expressions, without abating any thing of your due zeal for religion; for instance, in one of yours to the Secretary you took occasion, from the translation of Plunket's speech^b into French to say somewhat, which, if your memory can recollect, your judgment will scarce allow upon second thoughts. Your letters—

[Here half the letter is torn off; and it goes on thus] —is going with his family into France; and, as a piece of more surprising news, it is said now very confidentially that Tho. Thynne hath got my Lady Ogle. The Prince of Orange is here, and speaketh of you very kindly. His stay will be very short,^c but long enough to inform

^a Herein he was honourably distinguished; his name no-where appears in Barillon's list. FitzHarris had falsely charged Lord Halifax with being among the pensioners.

^b The speech of Dr. Plunket, titular primate of Ireland, at his execution, is printed in State Trials, viii. 495. On 26th July, 1681, Henry Savile had written: "These last three dayes Plunkett's speech has been cryed about the streets in such a manner as might animate the people against the Huguenots, at least the Lieutenant Civile did soe far feare it that he did yesterday forbid the cryeing of it. I question whether the edicts against the Protestants heer have been cryed in English in the streets of London. I wishe there were a composition that neither should be done; but I am sure wee ought to doe it if they doe. Pray, sir, think of this point, it is not very frivolous."

^c On 5th Aug. Savile wrote: "You may bee sure there are many comments heer on the Prince of Orange's voyage into England, though wee have noe certain newes of his having left Holland." On 24th July, O.S. 1681, the Prince of Orange arrived at Windsor. On 28th June (i.e. 8th July,) 1681, Henry Sidney told the Prince: "I believe there are

himself better of our affairs than he could have done by receiving his lights from the best of his correspondents.

I thank you for your notes concerning Mr. M., which I received by Coll. Sackville.

CLXIII.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

(Secretary's Letter Book, Extracts.)

SIR,

Whitehall, ^{28th July, '81.}
7 August.

What you write of the poor Protestants of that side is great sense and a noble compassion. On this day se'nnight there was a memoriall, drawn by some of them allready come over, read before his Ma^{ty} in council. His Ma^{ty} ordered letters immediately to be prepared for his royal signature to my Lord of London and my Lord Mayor for the making a speedy collection to answer in some measure their present necessities. The memoriall his Majesty was pleased to refer to a committee; and of 8 or 9 points which the French demanded as an help and an ease towards their transport and their settlement, there was nothing but what my Lords assented to as farr as the things were practicable here. I doe hope the collection in London will prove considerable, and may be soe disposed of as will best suite with the exigences of those people. Besides this collection, there is a brief directed to be issued out all the kingdom over; and his Ma^{ty} hath this day agreed to everything in the report and advice of the

some in the Cabinet Council that are desirous enough to see a breach between the King and your Highness. I told my Lord Halifax and my Lord Hide in plain terms that I was of that opinion. They answered that they could not imagine there was such a villain, and such a fool too, amongst them; for it would not only destroy the nation and all the royal family, but all Europe. I am apt to believe that these two lords are not so inclined but that they would be glad to see a good understanding between the King and your Highness, especially my Lord Halifax." . . . He "is highly incensed against the House of Commons and must stick to the Court (for he hath not a friend anywhere else), and therefore he is obliged to comply sometimes against his inclination." (Dalr. App. 9—11.) See further, Letter CLXVII. post, p. 217.

committee.^a That great point of interceding for them with the French King has not been yet debated. I am looking in the Paper Office for what has been done in that kind in former times by this crown. 'Tis true 'tis obvious enough what you say, that the French will demand a reciproque. I am not certain whether the last King was *guarand* to the peace after the taking of Rochelle; but I am afraid 'tis too true that this Most Christian King is *guarand* for the papists in Ireland in some of the capitulations that were made in the late troubles.

Mr Vice Chambrⁿ

CLXIV.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Fontainebleau, Aug. 8, '81.

On Tuesday last orders were sent to Mon^r de Montbron to despatche Mon^r de Courcelles to the Prince of Parma to let him know that, since hee and all the other Spanishe ministers had made such a noise concerning the number of villages this King claimed in Luxembourg, hee expected that number of 515 should be compleated; onely 45 beeing as yet delivered; and that if any of them upon further examination shall prove not to belong to him by virtue of his last claime hee will restore them. This proceeding is so extraordinary that I need make no remarques.^b

(In cipher.) They brag heer that the King hath assur'd the

^a In his letter of Aug. 2nd Savile says: "The soe many late edicts against the Huguenots doe now begin to take effect amongst the rabble, who did last week at Blois pull downe a corner of the temple, breake the windows, [and] severall other insolensyes have been done at Charreandun; and I suppose wee shall dayly heare of these sorte of accidents." And in his letter of 20th Aug.: "Three temples are condemned within this week in Dauphiné, and others in Xaintonge. You can not imagine the joy here upon the news of y^e care y^e King is pleased to have of the Protestants who seeke refuge in England. No question but he will soon be sensible of the good effects of it."

^b Savile concluded his letter of 2nd August with "doubting if the Spaniards can be ready in one spring as the D. de Medina Cœli counts on; if they can it will then be too late."

French Amb^r that y^e voyage of the Prince of Orange is not in order to take any measures against France.^a . . .

Hunting beeing the chiefe divertisement heer, severall accidents doe frequently happen. Hardly any can be more odd than that of a hinde that rann with such violence this morning against Madame's horse as to fall downe dead, whilst her R. High^{esse} sate soe fast that the jolt did not soe much as move her.

This is all you can have at present from, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CLXV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Aug. $\frac{19}{20}$, '81.

You will have another from me by this post; since when, I am told by S^r R. Mason somewhat more particularly than he express'd himself at our first meeting, that one of your chief arguments to press for a higher character is that it may recommend you to a considerable match. You say nothing of this in your own letter, which maketh me suspect it may be out of his superabundant friendship, that he might alledge all possible inducements for your obtaining what you pretend to; but in my judgment, if you have any hopes of this kind, the lady will be as well encouraged by a good lasting establishment here in England as by a such a transitory preferment as that of an embassadour, and therefore I will presume you can be in no hazard of losing your interest in her, if you have any, for want of a circumstance that hath nothing substantial in it. I would not venture to use this argument to the King upon the bare authority of S^r Richard Mason, besides that I apprehend it might be liable to be turn'd to raillery, which I did not think seasonable whilst I was very serious in moving in your behalf. This I thought fit to mention to you, having omitted it in my other letter.

^a Barillon asserts that Charles apologised to him for seeing his nephew, and concerted with the French Ambassador his answer to the Dutch and Spanish Ambassadors.

CLXVI.

SAME to SAME.

London, Aug. 11, '81.

I wrote by way of advance, being to go to-morrow early to Hampton Court, without being sure of returning hither time enough to write to you. I have yours by Sr W^m Jennings,^a whom I met going to Windsor; and I must first tell you, the world abroad maketh both my L^d Shaftesbury^b and myself much greater men than we are, and draw inferencies from the success of things one way or other that are not bound to follow. The matter is not so criticall as they apprehend it, and I will only tell you that I am far from thinking either the King or those near him to depend so much upon the event of this matter as it is represented to you at this distance: so that I have none of those inward disquiets you might reasonably suppose, if I took myself to be so nearly concerned. To your next paragraph, I will say no more than that I am never likely to be a French pensioner further than another kind vote may make me, so that I must set down with the honour of such a noble character without the aim of ever being the richer for it: in the meantime your part to me is so kind, that I must encourage you to continue it as often as you have the occasion, and I assure you, the hints you give me shall stay in my thoughts, so that I do not doubt but they may be very usefull to me. My former told you your informations concerning Sr John Chicheley were wrong, and before I conclude you will be further satisfied; for upon your last proposal, in which you seem so earnest, where you desire an addition of character, and for very good reasons relating to the publick, and the dignity of the crown, besides the arguments that may concern yourself in it, I moved the King, my L^d Hyde being present, and without disallowing your reasons, it is not thought fit to be done, from the argument

^a On 17 (*i.e.* 27th) of this month he was one of the witnesses against Colledge, the Protestant joiner: he followed James II. to France, and took a command in the French navy.

^b The bill of indictment against him had been thrown out by the grand jury.

of expence, which perhaps might have been over-ruled in this single case if it had not been urged that this would be a precedent to send embassadours to other places, which would lay a burthen upon the treasury it is not at present in condition to bear. This being so, I thought fit to represent to the King that I was sure he was too gracious to you, and too well satisfied with your service, to let you lye under such a mortification as this might perhaps be to you, and that if the uneasiness it might bring upon you should make you desire to return home, y^r coming would look like a disgrace; except you had the countenance of some other imployment to secure you from any such misconstruction. Then putting him in mind of the Admiralty, he presently fell into it, and said he would make a new commission where you and S^r John Chicheley should be taken in; he spoke it in a manner that I think you may rely upon it. It is yet a secret, and so you are to treat it; my opinion is, you should immediately take notice of this to the King, and desire to be recall'd that you may give him thanks, and serve him here, for I conclude you will judge this a more desirable thing than the tinsell of an embassy; besides it will ease you of a thousand difficulties and vexations the present posture of things abroad must necessarily throw upon those that are imploy'd in them. Adieu.

CLXVII.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter-Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{12}{22}$, August, 1681.

You'll receive herewith the abstract of some papers that the Spanish Ambassador gave in during the Prince of Orange's being here. There were some conferences held by my Lord your brother, my Lord Conway, my Lord Hyde, Mr. Seymour, and myself, with the Prince^a in the King's presence upon the subject-matter of the

^a A great mystery has been made as to the reasons for this visit of the Prince of Orange, and Ralph doubted Roger North's statement of the chief subject being the relations with

papers of the Spanish Ambassador. His Ma^{ty} was pleased to declare that he would joyne with the Dutch in all offices and instances that they should think fitt to make in order to bring the Most Christian King to abstaine from the *voyes de fait*, and to referr all matters in difference to the conferences at Courtray.

The Spanish Ambassador had insinuated a proposall not in writing but by word of mouth to his Ma^{ty}: it was to desire his Ma^{ty} to lend the Prince of Parma 2000 foot, therewith to maintain their strong places till such time as the Spanish recruits should be made up; and then the English should be sent home again.

The Prince intimated the States would lend 2000 men on their part if his Ma^{ty} would doe y^e same, saying that the States would refuse nothing that his Ma^{ty} should think fitt to doe; but his Ma^{ty} did not think fitt to give in to this proposall; for, besides the expenses of such a loane, the King was not obliged to it by his treaty — *Le cas du Traité n'estant pas encore eché*.

Thus stood that affair before the newes came that Chiny and its dependencies were actually yielded up, and that France declared they would send all other claims to Courtray.

France: these letters make the object sufficiently intelligible. Sir L. Jenkins in his letter of 8th, *i. e.* 18th, August had said: "I may with confidence refute all that is or can be suggested of the Prince's going away hence not well satisfied. The French Ambassador gives out that they are satisfied with the rendition that is made of Chiny and its dependencies, and that they will referr all other differences to the conference at Courtray." It was, according to Savile, reported in France that the Prince's voyage "had been very ineffectuall." Writing however to Mr. Fanshaw on 15th, *i. e.* 25th, August, Mr. Secretary Jenkins reiterated that "The Prince of Orange took a turn hither to wait on the King, whereby the measures between the King and the States are confirmed and fitted to the present occasion." To Sir H. Goodrick at Madrid he said on the same day, "The expectation of those who desired a war against France was very much heightened. His Majesty and the Prince agreed very fully in their sentiments. Y^e King our master is resolved to use all the means possible to save the Spanish Netherlands in conjunction with his allies," but cautions him against "entering into the warmth of the Dutch Ambassador" at Madrid. The immediate result of the Prince's visit was the joint memorial of England, Holland, and Spain presented in October. The other objects of the visit are explained in Lord Halifax's letters.

I am desired to recommend to your protection the wife and children of Mr. Abraham Gill an English Protestant, in case the wife, who is not French, but a Dutch woman, should be hindered from coming over from Nantes with her children. I am, &c.

Mr. V. Chamberlain.

CLXVIII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, ^{Aug. 25}_{Sept. 4}, '81.^a

I have been slower in answering your last from Paris from the hopes I had to have got before this a letter from the King himself to you, which he hath promised, but you know it is not very easy to prevail with him to keep his time upon such occasions. Your continuing to be so earnest for an addition of character, though against my own opinion, made me move again in it, but you over-value my power if you think I have enough to carry this point, for though there's all the disposition you could wish to gratify you as to your own particular, the objections against what you desire are so rooted in the King that they are not to be removed. The next thing to be done is to engage him to secure you a place in the Admiralty,^b when a change is made there, which will be done in a little time; and I think you may reckon yourself to be very secure of it by his

^a On the same day Secretary Jenkins conveyed the King's directions to Savile "to ask the Most Christian King in his Mat^y name, that he would give leave to a learned man to transplant himself hither (London) with his family and fortune: his Majesty intending to make him chief Library Keeper at St. James's," as his Majesty "intends to furnish and adorn that Library with manuscripts of the best sort, and to give the superintendancy of it."

^b In his letter to Secretary Jenkins of 3rd September H. Savile, alluding to a new correspondent he had engaged, says "I have putt him in the way of knowing those matters as exactly as mysele had learnt to doe, not soe much I assure you for my owne ease as that it may bee continued to you, though his Mat^y should at any time thinke fitt to withdraw mee from this station, where I have now continued allmost as long as any one man has done at one time."

repeated promises, which he will confirm further to you by his own letter, in which he will assure you that it is no want of kindness for you if he doth not comply with your request. I cannot say I am at all convinced by your arguments, but that hath not kept me either from wishing or endeavouring you might have your desire, which shall be reason enough to me in most cases; but since it falleth out so that the King is positively fixed not to admit of your pretension, I will assure you, if you will allow I can guess well for you, I am far from being sorry for it, for your sake and in your consideration wholly, having no interest of my own to biass me; though your offer is very kind to dispose yourself to wave all other arguments, if I apprehend you might be useful to me here. There is nothing of that in the case, but upon viewing your present circumstances, and foreseeing what may probably happen to you in the station where you are, I should not think it an unreasonable advice to you to leave it, even without the prospect of any thing here; but the argument is much stronger from the assurance you have of being admitted into a place which, with what you have already, will enable you to live to your satisfaction. It is true you have by your absence avoided some difficulties; but it is as true, that as things are likely to play you would have more difficulties where you are than you can probably have here, especially when fixed in so quiet a station as that of the Admiralty; and therefore I confess I cannot but give it you as my opinion, that as soon as you shall have the King's letter, which I will endeavour to hasten to you, you should ask leave to come over presently, and so by making it your own act avoid any interpretation which might be to your disadvantage, of leaving your employment, and prevent the dissatisfaction of remaining in it upon terms that make it uneasy to you. Your reception here will be such that you will be in no danger of having your return look like a disgrace, and, though the King is under circumstances and engagements that you cannot be put in singly into the commission at this very time, yet you may be sure nobody shall be put before you, and, if I do not mistake extreamly, the thing may probably be done

for you and Sir J. Chicheley together in a very little time after your return, so that you are not to look upon it as a matter of sollicitation, but a thing that will come to you naturally and without pains or disquiet in the obtaining it. The money you mention shall be ready for T. Robson when he calleth for it. I take this opportunity of writing by my L^d of Dorset, who is going over to you. My L^d Vaughan and Sir Cyril Wyche^a go along. They are your good friends, and yet let me give this caution, that as some men may hurt by betraying, others may by commending. I may perhaps preach more care to you than I practice myself, but it is because I think your circumstances may more require it. The King cometh from Windsor to-morrow. I must not forget to tell you that H. Guy is of my mind in what concerneth you. Adieu.

It is supposed the Dutch Embassadour will not follow the court to Lyons or Chambert,^b and then your doing it would be of no use, but of expense, an article much considered here at this time.

CLXIX.

SAME to SAME.

London, Sept. 11, '81.

Since I writ by my L^d of Dorset, I have yours of 28 Aug. new style, from Fontainebleau, by which I find you are not disposed to come over presently, but choose rather to stay with the character you have, notwithstanding the mortification you receive by it, concerning which I might say a great deal to convince you of the mistake if you apprehend it to be any diminution to yourself; but I will now only tell you, that you are too well known, and have been too well approved, to have any such consequence drawn from it. To return

^a Secretary of Ireland 1692 under Lord Sidney, and died Jan. 1707. (Luttrell's Diary.)

^b The proposal of the Court to go to Chambert was only a feint to cover the intention of going to Strasbourg, which was to be invested by Mon. de Montclar. The King started from Fontainebleau on that expedition on 30th Sept. N.S., the Queen and her Court with the Dauphine going to Nancy.

to the matter,—your inclination being to stay where you are for some time, it will be the less necessary the King should write to you, to give you a handle of coming over presently, so that I shall not solicit him any more in it, except you tell me you would have it, and then I will take care to procure it: in the mean time I think you are secure that nothing will be done in the commission of the Admiralty to your prejudice, and I cannot but take notice of the mistaken information you have had concerning Sr John Chicheley, which may be a caution to you hereafter not to be too apt to believe upon such occasions. I am glad the pretensions that were hinted to me by Sr R. Mason are so remote that you are not likely to receive any prejudice by the disappointment you had in the request you made here, which, as I have told you before, you are to place in the catalogue of your good fortunes, if I am not very much mistaken. There shall be care taken when the time cometh concerning that which you mention of due precedence in the commission, and in the mean time you are not to imagine that so unkind a thing can be done to you as to send over another with a greater character, when you have been refused it. I hear of the adventure which hath lately happened to you, though I wonder there are no letters from you concerning it; by the account that is given by the French embassadour, your servants are absolutely justified, and the fault lay'd where it ought to be, besides that the King of France resolveth to pursue the offenders with all severity, and to do every thing else that may give you entire reparation in all kinds.^a

^a Savile wrote to Secretary Jenkins on 5th Sept. to tell him of the attack made on 3rd Sept. on his servants by those of the Duke d'Elbœuf, beating at the gates with staves and stones and iron bars. On the arrival of the Escuyer they knocked him down, and so beat him till they cried he was dead; upon which, Savile's servants, having no longer patience, sallied out, killed three and hurt two in the Duke's livery. Mr. Pulteney, on Savile's side, had two wounds with a sword, one in the head and the other in the back, but they were not adjudged dangerous. The Duke d'Elbœuf went himself to make all the excuses and offers that were possible with all manner of respect to the King and civility to Savile. His son, brother, and most of the house of Lorraine did the like. On the 12th Savile wrote to say that he had obtained all the satisfaction he could desire, the whole house of Lorraine having loaded him with excuses and civilities. (MSS. State Paper Office.)

I come now from the Spanish Embassadour's, where we have had a conference with him and the Dutch Embassadour concerning a joint memoriall to be presented by you and the Dutch Minister at Paris, and in a little time it will be drawn up and sent to you.

CLXX.

SAME to SAME.

London, Sept. $\frac{2}{18}$, '81.

You will receive by this post from Mr. Secretary Jenkins a memorial agreed upon here by the Spanish and Dutch Embassadours, and to be delivered jointly by you and the Dutch Minister to the King of France.^a I believe you will judge that in the condition we are in it is fit to use a gentler style than might be proper if we were stronger; and therefore, our circumstances considered, it cannot be expected we should have said more, and perhaps the prince you have to deal with may think we have said too much. It seemeth there is a precedent for this method of a joint memorial, the same having been done by Monsieur Van Beuninghen and Sr John Trevor. I have seen the account you give of your own adventure, and as your proceeding is approved here, so I do not doubt but the King of France will do you exact justice according to the strictness of his own nature as well as his method of governing, so that probably some of the offenders may be prefer'd to the gallows: in that

^a By Secretary Jenkins's letter, it appears that one memorial was drafted by the Dutch Ambassador with the assistance of the Spanish, but that was set aside in favour of another drawn by the Earl of Halifax and others, reliance being placed on Mon. de Barillon's representation of Louis being ready to remit the matters in difference to the Courtray conferences. Henry Savile having expressed a dislike to the address, Jenkins on 15th, *i.e.* 25th, Sept. assures him that his great friend who was in London lately (the Prince of Orange) from Holland pressed it so that "we could not refuse to comply. The matters of fact are no otherwise alledged than they were vouched by the Spanish Minister, and for the success, we have been used so bad that if the address does not excite some displeasure and indignation upon it we think ourselves well enough. The truth is, I could have wished heartily we had not been prest so violently: you know the suspicion we labour under, and how a want of complaisance in some things would be construed at this time." (Letter Book.)

case I thought it no disservice to you to move the King you might have full power to intercede for them, or let them alone, as you should judge most reasonable, or as you find yourself disposed to return the civilities of the house of Lorraine to you upon this occasion. Whilst I am writing, yours of the 9th cometh to me, by which I find you are not inclined to interrupt the course of justice; however it can do no harm to have it in your power. The King went this morning to Newmarket. I don't know whether it will be news to you that my L^d Hyde went 4 or 5 days since into Scotland. I hear you have got a good match for Mr. Poulteneys, and on the other side Bernard Howard tells me you have made his kinsman your irreconcilable enemy. Adieu.

CLXXI.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

S^r,

Paris, October 1st, 1681.

To give you on account of the memoriall delivered to Mons^r de Croissy on Saturday morning, by y^e Dutch Amb^{dr} and my selfe, after hee had read it before us, hee insisted upon the point of hindering provisions from being caryed into Luxembourg; w^{ch} hee said was noe otherwise then in a care of the King's owne troopes that they should bee first served, but they beeing furnished, all liberty was allowed the country people to sell the rest in y^e towne. As to all the other circumstances, hee said they were peevishe complaints of the Spanyards and wholly untrue. After this hee told mee civilly that this King, his master, knew too well the engagements his Mat^{ty} had with the Spanyards to wonder at his concerne for them: but then, turning very angrily to y^e D. Amb^{dr}, asked him to explaine himselfe whether his masters had any further engagements with Spaine then just to maintaine the peace of Nimeguen: that if they had his master knew very well what measures to take, and

though he now said this onely from himselfe, hee doubted not but hee should soon have the King his master's orders to tell him soe. This he repeated in great passion as if they had heer some other suspitions of the Hollanders then they have hitherto openly avow'd. For further answer to our memoriall hee contented himselfe to deliver on Monday into the Dutch Amb^{ts} handes the copy of a letter written by Mon^r de Louvoy, on the 23 of y^e last monthe, to Mon^r de Barillon and Mon^r D'Avaux, w^{ch} has already been imparted to you by y^e former. . . .

I will onely add that the Dutch Amb^{dr} is gone this morning poste to the Hague; that the Mareschal de la Ferté is dead; and that I am most unfeignedly, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CLXXII.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

S^r,

Paris, Octobr. 3d, 1681.

Though you can witness I have long foretold that Strasbourg^a would bee besieged in October, I can not value myselfe upon any certain knowledge of this King's voyage; nor doe I excuse my ignorance, since I have all France for my companions, noe great man of any name having been trusted with the designe or the execution of this (or indeed of any other matter). Not onely the Mareshall de Crequy, though Governour of Loraine, but at least two of the foure secretaries of state, beeing ignorant of it till it was made publick by y^e whole court. To keep the designe more secret, a great part of the baggage, with the commedians, musitiens, &c. were sent but two dayes before towards Chambert; soe another pretty ruse was

^a On the 4th Savile reported that the troops had entered Strasbourg, and "little or noe blood drawne upon soe great an occasion."

found to keep off the suspicion of Casal,^a Mon^r Catinat, the Governour, having been some weeks a close prisoner at Pignerol, as if hee had been a malefactour rather designed for punishment then a command of that importance.

Upon these two great affaires I am told by people of some consequence, that the King our master has assured Mon^r de Barillon that, provided noe attempts bee made upon the Spanishe Netherlands, hee will not interpose in any of this King's enterprises on the side of Italy or Germany, which, if true, doubtlesse his Majesty has good reasons for it: if false, 'tis noe more than what is too frequent at this court concerning him and his affaires.^b However the case stands, it may bee worth his Maj^{ty's} consideration what to doe if this King on his returne from Strasbourg should seize upon Luxembourg, a report so universall that I know not how to slight it, especially seeing how easily this King finds a title to anything hee has a mind to; of which wee need noe other example then this new one hee has found for Strasbourg, that of the Byshop (hitherto the onely one) beeing so wholly waved that the Prince of Firstemberg is the onely man of quality who has not followed him, but stayes in this towne, though his regiment bee in Alsatia; these Firstembergs affecting not to meddle in this matter. Prince Will^m having been in disguise last week at Fontainbleau, though I heare of noe other greater matter hee did then to procure an addition of 2,000 pistoles p^r an. to his owne

^a Purchased by Louis by the bribery of the Duke of Mantua.

^b Barillon's conferences were privately with Hyde, whose colleagues were kept in the dark. Sir L. Jenkins, replying on $\frac{3}{13}$ Oct. to Henry Savile, said, "I can beare witness to your predictions: but the reports raised there of discourses between the King and Mr. Barillon are most intollerably suspicious: there could bee noe account to bee had there at Paris of what pass'd at Newmarket; for soe it must be between his Ma^{ty} and the French Amb^r if it be supposed to have passed after the taking of Strasbourg; for y^e letter bears date the 3rd and Strasbourg was taken but three days before. If it be surmised that the discourse had between his Ma^{ty} and Mr. Barillon was before the enterprise, pray judge whether, the design being not communicated to M^r de Crequy and two of the secretaries, we were considerable enough to have that participation. But this is an old ruse, and you are sufficiently acquainted with it." (Letter Book.)

pension, soe that hee seemed rather to come *in forma pauperis*, then for any better reason to bee incognito. I have allready observed to you how angrily Mon^r de Croissy entertain'd the Dutch Amb^{dr}, who had flegme enough to say noe thing in returne, but that hee and I giving in that memoriall jointly wee had noe thing further to say upon it but obey our masters in delivering of it. The truth is, when he denyed matter of fact wee had noe proofs to justifie what our memoriall alledged, beeing kept in soe stupid an ignorance of all things that relate to Flanders, that except wee would beleeve common reports noething certain comes to our handes, but at rebound from Eng^d and Holland; and, though wee have often observed to the Span. Amb^{dr} y^e necessity of his beeing better informed and of his informing us, either y^e D. of Parma neglects him or hee neglects us too much to make us any wiser.

The Swedish and Venetian Amb^{drs} are the onely foreigne ministers who have followed his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} in this expedition: if his Maj^{ty} thinke fitt I should attend alsoe, his commands to mee to goe and to my Lord Hyde to helpe mee will make mee overtake y^e court in its returne before it can reache Luxembourg.^a Nay, if his Ma^{ty} bee very jealous for that place, it were properer for mee to goe and expect him thereabouts then to goe look after him in his uncertain motions visiting his places in Alsatia, w^{ch} everybody counts hee will doe before his returne to Versailles; nay, some doe imagine hee will hardly bee in these parts all the winter, but there is yet noe certain sckeame of his resolutions: as I heare them you shall doe soe likewise, from, Sr, y^r most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

^a On ^{the} 18th Oct. Sir L. Jenkins conveyed the King's pleasure that Savile should "not follow the King's court till further order. My Lord your brother was at Newmarket when this resolution was taken last night: the reason being that his Maj^{ty} hath obliged himself to act joynly with the States Generall for the preservation of Flanders, and therefore, unless their Amb^{dr} doe goe upon the same errand, his Maj^{ty} will not send you to act singly by yourself." (Letter Book.)

CLXXIII.

Earl of HALIFAX to H. SAVILE.

London, ^{Sept. 26,} '81.
Octr. 6,

I have not yet been at Newmarket, though I think I could not have escaped it any longer, if I had not a very scurvy reason to excuse me, a small indisposition that maketh me unfitt for a journey, especially when I have so little mind to it. Last night I saw your letter to Secretary Jenkins, which mentioneth the delivery of your memorial; in your last you seemed to be of opinion it was not seasonable at this time, but if you had seen the importunity of the Spanish Embassadour here, and which is more of the Prince of Orange, who writ quarelling letters because it was not dispatched, I am persuaded you would as we do conclude it was unavoidable, and by what I can see, it is still more justify'd by the late proceedings of the French at Courtray, besides Casal and Strasbourg, that must help to rouse the world out of their sleep: though in the distracted condition the confederates are in it may be doubted whether it is not now too late for them to do anything towards their security.

My young men will have nothing to do when they have paid their duty to you but to make haste home, where I am preparing a lodging at Mr. Foubert's for George; and Will: I think must go to the university, but I will not absolutely determine that till I see him. I am interrupted, and can add no more but that I am yours.

CLXXIV.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sir,

Paris, Octob^r, 15, '81.

When I have humbly acknowledged the receipt of yours, I have gone a great way in this letter, having noothing new from the

court in Alsatia, nor beeing able to foretell what new thunder-clapps may happen in those partes. . . .

Heer is great discourse of an assurance the Cardinal d' Estree has given the Pope of the King's resolutions to extirpate the Protestant religion in France: the truth is, the most triviall meanes are not neglected, and they have descended soe low as to displace painters out of the Goblins, as unworthy to gaine any livelyhood; with other little severities one would have thought farr beneath the observation of soe great men as busy themselves in soe noble a worke (as they call it) as the rooting out heresy.^a

Yesterday Sr William Parsons, lately made by his Maj^{ty} Viscount Rosse, in Ireland, marryed in my house Mrs. Bridges, daughter of my Lord Chandos. I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

^a In his letter of 26th Sept., i. e. 6th Oct., Secretary Jenkins had said, "Wee doe all wee can to content the poor Protestants that would be denizen'd here (London)." Among the Domestic papers in the State Paper Office is a book (No. 694) containing the names of persons having letters of denization 1681-8. There is also (Dom. 1682) the following certificate of good conduct at Rye, where many settled. "These are to certifie all whome it may concerne, that the French Protestants that are settled inhabitants of this towne of Rye are a sober, harmless, innocent people; such as serve God constantly and uniformly according to the usage and custome of the Church of England; and further that wee beleive them to be falsely aspersed for Papists and disaffected persons: no such thing appearing unto us by the conversations of any of them. This we do freely and truly certifie for and of them. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands the 18th day of Aprill, 1682. W^m. Williams, Vicar, Tho. Tournay, Francis Lightfoot, coll^r Maties Customes, Mil. Edgar, King's searcher, Lewis Gillart, jurat, Mich. Cadman, jurat, Noble Waterhouse, waiter and searcher, Tho. Markwicke, clerk." And on 3rd May several of the inhabitants of Rye declared their willing consent that the French Protestants newly settled in that place might continue their assemblies in their church from 8 till 10 P.M., and from 12 till 2 P.M., and have the use of the pulpit and seats. The metal service used by them at their communion is still preserved in the town; and one at least of their descendants, Mr. Dansay, became a jurat of this cinque port. Rye had been an asylum for the Huguenots after the fearful day of St. Bartholomew, 1572, and a record of their names is in Lansd. MS. 1570.

CLXXV.

Sir L. JENKINS to H. SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{1}{2}$ 10th, 8ber, '81.

I had the favour to receive a letter from you last Saturday night The same evening arrived here Mr. Van Beuninghen, but it was soe late that I had noe notice of it till he surprised me next morning.

You can easily imagine how much hee enlarged upon the occasion of his coming, how dreadful hee represented the power of France to be, and how there was no possibility *d' estre sauvés* but by an union of councils and conjunction of forces against France. He tells us (for he hath spoken with my Lord your brother, and my Lord Hyde as well as myself,) that the states are enter'd into a treaty with Sweden for the guaranty of the general peace: he would have his Ma^{ty} enter into the same, in confidence that Denmark, Brandenburg and Lunenberg will enter into it as well as the house of Austria, which hath most need of it.

But it most remarkable that this gentleman, who is very free of his discourse, seemeth to demand the utmost assistance of these three kingdomes, yet would not own it as any part of his commission to advise or exhort the calling of a parliament; but all that hath been sayd unto him on our part hath been to referr him to his Ma^{ty}'s coming hither, which will be, God willing, on Wednesday next.

The taking of Strasburg by such a surprise, and the demanding an equivalent for the *Pays d' Alöst*, are things that in themselves have noe colour of right, and they have been soe represented to the French Amb^r here; his answer is that for the first it was done to prevent a surprise on the house of Austria's side; and for the other was "But"—"But," the pleading of an advocate speaking the best and demanding the most on his cause, without that it followeth that it

is either the directions of the King his master to make such a demand, or his intention to proceed pursuant to that demand.

Mr. V. Chamberlⁿ.

CLXXVI.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid., Extracts.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{1}{2}$ 7th 8ber, '81.

You'll receive inclos'd the copy of a treaty that Sweden hath enter'd into with Holland on Friday was fortnight. It is the plan upon which Mr. Van Beuninghen would make it a general union against France, but would leave the quotas of subsidies to be fixt and determin'd *pro re nata*. He would have declined the making of any proposition in writing to the King, but his Maj^{ty} hath found it necessary to be insisted upon. We are in expectation of it every houre. I think that having given you this enclosed you'll have the substance of what he demands from us. He sayeth that if we keep ourselves within the retreat of more moderate councells (that is, not concerne ourselves for Germany but onely for Flanders) the Dutch will enter into our sentiments. If anything that is vigorous be thought on, the King must be in the head of it; if nothing be done *nous sommes tous perdus*.

Mr. V. Chamblⁿ.

CLXXVII.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{2}{3}$ 8th, 8ber, '81.

The town and the country is full of the *ignoramus* brought in by the London jury upon Rouse's indictment. Never was anything more fully proved than the high treason against him.^a 'Tis

^a North says that he was in the front of a design to surprise the Tower and Whitehall. He was afterwards tried for this offence after the Rye House Plot, and was executed 20th July, 1683. (State Trials, ix. 638, 667.)

not to be expressed how unsufferable their insolence was. You will have the relation in print this night.

Wee have had but one conference (and that was last night) with Mr. Van Beuninghen; and it was a conference such as we have in Parliament when 'tis not a free conference, for he spoke all. I am with great respect, &c.

Mr. V. Chamb^a.

CLXXVIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir. L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, November 1st, '81.

As for Mr. Van Beuninghen and his businesse I can onely wish from the bottome of my soule his Maj^{ty} may doe what is both most safe and most glorious for him; but I doubt everybody must agree with your Dutchman that if noe thing bee done *nous sommes tous perdus*.

This King has fixed his marche for his returne to St. Germain's, but that dos not conclude hee will observe it; for it may bee a blinde for some other designe, as well as sending soe much furniture and baggage to Chambert when hee never intended to goe thither. I will hope the best; but y^e industrious assurances not onely to the courtiers, but to some officers of y^e army, that they may returne hither if any businesse calls them, is to mee matter of suspition, since I have not hitherto observ'd anything of that kind practis'd out of pure indulgence

I am told from very good handes that the court dos not approve, nor intend to support the bayliff of Charenton in y^e execution of y^e ordonance I sent you a copy of; soe that it is evident hee was putt upon it onely by the furious zeale of the Archbyshop of Paris and y^e Pere de la Chaise.

Till I can find more and better entertainment for you, you must please to content yourselfe with the assurances of my beeing most respectfully, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CLXXIX.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, Oct. 24, '81.
Nov. 3.

I had this morning two of yours brought to me by S^r John Chardin. One of them of so long a date, viz. March 28th, that I think it will not be necessary to make any answer to it; and consequently all that you mention concerning your Spanish Embassy is no more in your thoughts, since you did not say a word of it when you were here, nor have not written of it since you left England. You seem to be satisfied with a settlement in the Admiralty, which I think will be taken care of; and it will suit very well with your desires to have a place of ease and quiet after having spent so much of your time abroad. I think such men as S^r John Chardin should be encouraged; and I shall be ready to do my part. I shall enquire about the possibility of a Protestant bank in the city; and when I have informed myself you shall have my opinion of it. Monsieur Van Beuninghen is here; and there has been conferences with him, which have not yet brought anything to determination.^a We hear you have disposed Mademoiselle de Gouvernette^b to my L^d of Dorset. Adieu.

CLXXX.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office, Extracts.]

S^r,

Paris, November 5, 1681.

By my new method of troubling you but once a week during the absence of the court, I should not have writt to-day but to ac-

^a On the day this letter was written the Earl of Halifax, the two Secretaries of State, and others, had been appointed Commissioners to treat with the Dutch Ambassador about a Protestant League. (Luttrell's Diary, i. 139.)

^b Esther, daughter and coheir of Charles de la Tour, Marquis of Gouvernette, however married in 1684 Henry Lord Eland, eldest son of the Marquis of Halifax.

knowledge yours of 8^{ber} 20th, which mentions onely the extraordinary behaviour of the grand jury in the case of Rous, and one conference you have had with Mr. Van Beuninghen. . . .

Notwithstanding the great and laudable care that has been taken to make the passage of foreigne Protestants easy into England, I durst not presumptorily undertake to some who are of the trade of making laws, that whatever stock of that kind [tin at Marseilles] they should carry over should bee safe, being by law a prohibited comodity. Pray S^r instruct mee how I shall precisely answer questions of this kind, for they are often asked mee, and how farr any certificate or passeport from mee may bee of use to them; of which I have been exceeding sparing, least my zeale in this matter should make mee bee thought to pretend to more power then belongs to my station, for the truthe whereof I appeale to yourselfe.

Wee have noething from the Court but the continuance of his M. X^{an} Mat^{ys} resolutions to bee at St. Germain's on y^e 17, and yet I doe heare of some mooving of troopes in most part of Flanders,^a w^{ch} doe not look as if hee would sett up his rest for all winter soe soon. Hee has owned two more children^b by Madame de Montespan (hitherto concealed): a sonn to bee called Le Comte d'Eu,^c and a daughter to succeed her who dyed lately att Bourbon in y^e name of Mad^{lle} de Tours. . . .

I shall need add noe more in this but my beeing with all respect,
S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

^a In his letter of 12th November, he says he is "assured there is a body of 15,000 men at Ypres." The King however returned to St. Germain's, "having been obliged to stay a little longer at Stenay then hee intended, for the accident of the Queen and all her weomen beeing lost in a wood in a most romantick manner."

^b Mad. de Montespan had eight children by Louis XIV. Five sons, two of whom died young without titles; the Duke of Maine; the Count of Vexin, who also died in his youth; and the Count of Toulouse: and three daughters, Louisa Francisca Mad^{lle} de Nantes, who married the Duke of Bourbon, grandson of the great Condé; Louisa Mary Anne Mad^{lle} de Tours, whose death is here mentioned; and Francisca Mary Mad^{lle} de Bleis, who married the Regent Duke of Orleans. (Anderson's Genealogies.)

^c See this corrected hereafter, p. 240.

CLXXXI.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid. Extracts.]

S^r,Paris, 9^{ber} 19, '81..

Though I have pay'd my duty to his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} at St. Germain's I can say little from his Court, his returne beeing soe freshe that there is yet noething observable but the crowdes of such as goe to welcome him home. On Monday he went to visit his buildings at Versailles, where hee gave a rendezvous to y^e Arch-bishop of Paris to give him an account of the proceedings of y^e assembly of the clergy, but it can yet bee but a slender one, for I heare noe great things yet of them but of their great breakfasts.

Monsieur and Madame are detained in this towne by the sicknesse of the Duke de Chartres^a: the childe is said to have had a fitt of an apoplexy, but I am credibly told hee had a fall which his nurse dares not owne; hee has into the bargain a quartain ague.

I sent Mr. Cooke word the last poste that the Algerines had declared warr against this King for detaining theire subjects in his gallyes; perhaps as Christian a ground of quarrell as *pour ma gloire*.

The courtiers whisper heer as if there were some other voyage speedily designed, but I hardly beleeeve it, not seeing any thing in this King's prospect worth his owne presence, or that cannot as well bee executed by his lieutenants.

I send you the enclosed memoriall of Mon^r D'Avaux to y^e States, but I will not make the strange remarques upon it that it would beare; onely this I thinke may be said, that all such as concerne themselves in publick affaires have noething left but to grieve and wonder. . . . I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

^a Philip, eldest son of the Duke of Orleans, by his second wife Charlotta Elizabeth, daughter of the Elector Palatine, born 2 Aug. N.S. 1674, and afterwards Regent.

CLXXXII.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

9ber 21, '81.

I send this in favour of a Protestant linnendraper, who with all his substance is resolved to retire into England, in order to which hee has packed up his shopp and sent it in specie to Dunkirque, having payd all the dutyes and customes on this side for exportation; but, beeing now told that his religion will not hinder the confiscation of his goods, hee goes first to London himselfe before he will hazzard his effects. This beeing his case, hee desires a recommendation to you, begging y^r favour and assistance, w^{ch} I hope you will please to afford him as farr as the law will permitt, which if stretched a little upon the account of religion, will not I beleeve give offence to the most rigorous legislatours.

This man will bee able alsoe to give you some lights into the method of bringing the manufacture of sayle cloathe into England, (the project I have allwayes appear'd soe fond of,) w^{ch} may intitle him to some favour, though I need not doubt but hee will from your bounty find all the regular assistance desired on his behalfe by, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

Heer is a Protestant haberdasher in the same trouble about carrying his effects. Pray instruct mee what to say to such people upon the like occasions. I assure you it is worth a serious consideration, for if you refuse to take substantiall tradesmen with their ware, they will goe into Holland, soe that they will get y^e riche merchants and wee onely the poor ones.

CLXXXIII.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Paris, Novemb^r 22, '81.

I will begin with putting you in mind that as I assured you in June Strasbourg would bee taken in October, I doe now in November as pereemptorily undertake that Luxembourg will bee taken in Marche, unlesse the Spanyards give some occasion to hasten it, but beyond that terme you will not see it out of this King's handes.

Heer is new worke beginning upon the old businesse of Andaja, and I am sure of such preparations making on that side as can regard noething but Fontaraby; therefore when you heare of a thunderbolt thereabouts, you may remember the cloudes have been gathering a good while, and though this bee under the Spanyards' nose they doe not soe much as dreame of it, and if they were told of it they are people not to beleeve it, noe more than Mon^r de los Balbaces would beeleeve the businesse of the flagg when I shew'd him the copy of the very order.

By the discourse of the Court mighty matters are to bee done next spring, yet noe new levyes are made, for, though this King by reason of his numerous garrisons has above 100,000 foot, hee has besides his guardes and musquetaires but 10,000 horse in the world, and his cavalry, beeing all mounted upon German horses, will require a good deale of time to rayse, for, though out of Auvergne and Limosin some few horses are allowed, they are soe very few (all Frenche horses beeing either too little or too bigg) that a considerable body of horse can not bee mounted but out of Germany. That body which Mon^r de Boufflers commanded at Casal is with him returning, and foot to bee sent in their room, it beeing expected that Mon^r Catinat doe his businesse with infantry alone.

I can not yet give you the perticulers of the naval preparations for the next yeare, but I can give you an assurance that the first steps promise much greater then ever were yet heard of heer, and if Algiers being added to Tripoli are formidable enough to occasion

such forces as I am credibly told will bee sett out against them, his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} will soon cleer the Mediterranean of pyrates both for himselfe and his neighbours; but then who shall be voted pyrates next is another question!

You see by my friend's letter this morning how the money goes, above 4 millions allready for the next monthe goes very high, though the whole military expense both by land and sea bee included. The burthen lyes very heavy upon Mon^r Colbert's shoulders, who is putt to his utmost extremity and great economy in other things to provide these vaste summes.

They seem as confident heer that wee shall doe them noe hurt as that noebody else can do them any. They pretend to know our master's answer to Mon^r Van Beuninghen,^a and upon it ground great contempt for that which the States have given Mon^r d'Avaux, of which they doe not regard the submissive part, but wonder at their insolence in that part which mentions their owne liberty of choosing their allies. This is the true mapp of this Court, which I send you onely because it is soe, not out of any private consideration or inclination of my owne, upon my faith.

The Assembly of the Clergy are gone yet noe farther then to have chosen commissaryes to propose the heades of their debates. The Archbyshop of Rheims with the Byshops of Tournay and Condom (lately made Meaux) are to prepare the papers of the Regale; the Archbyshop of Rouen with his coadjutors y^e Archbyshop of Carthage, sonne to Mon^r Colbert, with some other Byshops, the papers concerning the nuns of Charonne, &c. The whole matter will I suppose end with some new persécution of the Protestants, and then all will bee well; in the mean time heer are several bills against the

^a The reply of Charles to Beuninghen does not appear in the letters sent to H. Savile; but, writing on 15 November 1681, Barillon stated, "I have had a long conference with my Lord Hide upon the terms in which his Britannic Majesty's answer to Van Beuning should be conceived. He told mee that, though the King of England did not enter into the league, he would not avoid explaining himself as if he intended it hereafter, and for this reason he thought himself obliged to answer, that when the Emperour, the King of Denmark, and the principal Princes of the Empire shall have entered into the league of association, he will be ready also on his part to enter into it." (Dalr. App. 14).

Archbyshop of Paris, the Pere de la Chaise, and the whole body of Jesuits, the whole clergy abhorring them as much as they dare shew, considering how they are supported.

I know not whether I ever sent you this King's declarations concerning the company of Senegal: to make amends for not sending the latter sooner, I send you the old one with it, desiring you to excuse this lazy trick I have gott of saving myselfe the use of cypher, but the truth is, ours is not soe perfect as I could wishe, and I presume I must make many faults, considering what are made in all I receive from your officers. I am most respectfully, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CLXXXIV.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid. Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, 9^{ber} 22, '81.

The greatest newes I could heare yesterday att St Germain's was the continued hopes of Madame La Dauphine's beeing with childe. Wee batchelours are not to talk of midwives, but, by what I am told, I beleeeve it certain.^a

I will onely add an accident hapned heer amongst our owne fellow subjects. On Thursday night Mr. Talmache, sonn to the Dutchesse of Lawderdale, and Mr. Kerneggy, second sonn to the Countesse of Southaske, having a quarrell, which came to drawing of swordes, the latter was runn quite through the body, of which he did not dye till last night.^b In that short remaynder of his life hee gave great occasion to my Lady his mother to shew great zeale for the Roman and her religion; for besides the priests of all

^a Louis Duke of Burgundy was born 6 August, N.S. 1682.

^b 21 Feb. 1682, Savile told the result: "Mr. Talmache was tryed at the Chastelet heer on Wednesday last for the death of Mr. Kerneggy. Hee was acquitted for a fine of 1,000 pistoles; which beeing immediately paid, the use hee made of his liberty was to goe to Flanders to avoid an appeale to the parliament, and by consequence more trouble, though I thinke little danger."

sortes shee brought to him, shee would not admitt the Dutchesse of Monmouth's chaplain (whom I owne for mine) to come neer him, nor would shee suffer Mon^r Claude's sonn to pray by him, though the young man desired it. To perfect the worke, shee made him sign a paper as hee was dyeing, by virtue of which shee buryes him as a papist. Noething of all this came to my knowledge till this moment, by reason of my comeing late last night from St. Germain's; had I been heer yesterday, possibly I had had a battle with this zealous and pious parent that noebody else would undertake to dispute with, but all I have now left is to have sent to my Lord Kerneggy not to goe to his brother's funerall, and at least give that discountenance to this famous conversion, whereby this good lady has shew'd the same care for her sonnes salvation shee has ever had of her owne honour.

Wee have an imperfect story of something hap'ned at Lisbonne betwixt y^e Frenche and Spanishe Ambass^{rs}, in which the Prince of Portugal thinks the Frenche in the wrong. I presume you will have an exact account of it from Mr. Fanshaw.

I made a mistake lately in y^e names of y^e children this King has had by Mad. de Montespan; they are Le Comte de Tholouse and Mad^{elle} d'Eu.^a I suppose y^e latter shall have Eu after Mad^{elle} de Montpensier's deathe,^b as the Duke du Mayne is to have the principality of Dombes.

I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^r Jenkins.

CLXXXV.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{1}{4}$ 9ber, '81.

The last letters from Flanders were soe pressing that his Ma^{ty} would be pleased to doe offices towards the Most Christian King,

^a Should be de Blois: the Count of Toulouse and Mad^{lle} de Blois were legitimated 4 Nov. N.S. 1681.

^b Ann Mary Louisa, Duchess of Montpensier and Princess of Dombes; b. 29 May, 1627; died 5 April, 1693, N.S. See ante, p. 195, note ^b.

in order to the rescuing of Luxembourg from the distress it is in at this time, that his Ma^{ty} resolved that a memⁿ should be prepared to express to that Court his Ma^{ty}'s sense of the infraction of the peace on that side. The memⁿ was prepared accordingly; but his Ma^{ty} having spoken with Mr. Van Beuninghen upon that matter, the sending of the expresse that was intended is for the present putt off. I send you a letter that I received from the Spanish Ambr, which gave occasion to the preparing of such a memⁿ. Mr. Van Beuninghen, for all his warmth in some things, does not seem to be soe concerned as his Ma^{ty} is for the conservation of Luxembourg: but we shall allways goe hand in hand with them, &c.

Vice-Chamberlain.

CLXXXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[Extracts, MSS. State Paper Office.]

Sr,

Paris, 9ber 26, '81.

Yesternight I receaved yours of the 10th with his Maj^{ty}'s answer to Mon^r Van Beuninghen's memoriall; with which if hee and his masters are not abundantly satisfyed they are very unreasonable. . . .

I doubt this will reache you before one I wrote on Saturday last; which mentioned the matter of Fuentaraby. Yesterday at St. Germain's I found it noe longer a secret. Mon^r de Boufflers, who is returned from Casal into Dauphiné with y^e cavalry out of Italy, beeing sent for poste for hither to be despatched to Bayonne to command some troopes there, in order to satisfaction for the old businesse of Andaja. The new pretext is that some officers of Fuentaraby imprisoned upon that account at the complaint of the Frenche Ambass^{dr} at Madrid are released without either tryall or punishment. Whether this will hurt the Spanyards more is another case; but I will answer it will fright them and vex them more then any losses they can have in Flanders.

I leave you to make your owne remarques upon the great dis-

course heer, that the Algerines have been putt upon making warr upon this crowne at the instigation of the Genoueses. The Minister of that republique heer has been lately sent away before the arrivall of his successour upon some very tickelische pretences; in a word, all dos not goe well on that side, as may probably appeare more plainly in the spring.

Yesterday the Venetian Amb^r had audience to give his Maj^{ty} joy of beeing theire neighbour at Casal.

Wee expect the Dutch Amb^r hourly from Holland. . . .

Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CLXXXVII.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Extracts, Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{11}{27}$ Novber, '81.

A letter that the Spanish Amb^r sends me just now sheweth me what we are to expect of Luxembourg. All provisions are stopt; and on the 11th current a French officer answered the Prince de Chimay in these words: "Que le Marquis de Lambert avoit ordre de mettre du monde non seulement dans le Chasteau d'Hestdorff et à Esch, mais encore à toutes les avenues, mesme dans les eglises et maisons les plus voisines de la ville de Luxembourg, pour empescher que rien y entre de quelle nature que ce soit, jusques à ce que l'on ait accordé les pretentions du Roy T. C. sur la Chastellenie d'Alost." This will invite the Prince of Parma to attempt the succouring of that place, which will amount to a rupture, and consequently bring his Maj^{ty} under the obligation of calling his parlm^t. This is the conjuncture here. I will not enlarge upon this subject; I cannot doe it without entring into the vanity of offering to foretell events, &c.

Vice-Chamberlain.

CLXXXVIII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

Sr,

Paris, 9ber 29, '81.

I have y^{rs} of the 14th in cypher; and am infinitely glad to find his Maj^{ty} soe forward in everything that is desired of him for maintaining the generall peace, that the allyes can have noe occasion to reproache his backwardnesse.

The preparations against Fuentaraby goe on very briskely; and in order to them 50,000 pistoles were returned to Bourdeaux last Monday.

Till the 15th of the next monthe wee shall see noething certain about the navall affairs; against that time all officers necessary for those preparations are commanded to be heer.

Instead of the Dutch Ambass^{drs} arrivall, w^{ch} wee expected, wee heare hee continues sick of an ague at the Hague.

Having at present noe more to give you in writing I will make you amends in print, sending you the liste of the assembly of the clergy, and a manifest published concerning the right of this King's proceedings in the new conquests.

I am, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

I am just now told that the Algerines have taken six Frenche vessells.

CLXXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid. Extracts.]

Sr,

St. Germain's, 10ber 2^d, 1681.

I have just now receaved yours of the 17th. Besides the severe message you mention of the Marquis de Lambert to the Prince de Chinay, I suppose you heare that the Mareschal d'Humieres has

orders to enter Flanders, and demand to the value of 20,000 crownes, at which rate the Frenche value the mischief has been done them in the little scuffle at a grange near Luxembourg, which must needs make noyse enough to have reached you by the meanes of Sir Richard Bolstrode; yet after all I am told this day that (in cypher) the King of France is growne a little humbler, and will now be content to have Luxembourg onely razed.

The Portugall envoyé at this court has presented a memoriall against Mon^r d'Oppede, Ambass^{dr} att Lisbon from this crowne, where he is accused of soe many impertinencies that I doe not see how it is possible hee should bee continued there.^a

The whole Court has been busied to-day in making complements to Mon^r de Louvoy, upon the King's having granted the survivance of his place of Secretary of State to his sonne the Marquis de Courtenvaux, of eighteen yeares of age.

Madame la Dauphine's beeing with childe is dayly more and more confirmed, and *la bassette* is once more strictly forbid. I am, Sr,

your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

CXC.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Paris, 10^{ber} 6, 1681.

The greatest newes I can send you by this poste is the orders sent to all the portes to make the Hollanders pay those duties which were putt upon all their vessells in the year 1667, and were taken off by the treaty of Nimeguen. I am told this morning that wee are alsoe included in these orders, in which case I shall desire to know his Maj^{ty}s thoughts.

The Gazette will tell you that this King was heer yesterday to see

^a In his letter of 9 Dec. Savile says that Oppede had received a severe reprimand, and with orders to behave himself more discreetly for the future, and with more respect to the Queen and Prince.

severall curiosities; and among the rest the famous statue which the Duke de la Feuillade has made in honour of him, and which has been thought a great argument for that Duke beeing governour of Dauphiné.

The councell on Wednesday last sat soe extreame late that great matters are said to have been transacted there, and especially in order to foreigne affaires; the Court talkes much of warr, and dos us the honour to thinke us the onely people that can either prevent it or support it.

Yesterday 150,000 pistoles were ordered for the marine.

The assembly of the clergy proceed slowly, and are said to bee in noe great likelyhood of giving justifiable reasons for their meeting, w^{ch} some pretend to say his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} is sensible of, and has said those who putt him upon assembling them might have spared him that labour; but, however the matter is taken at Court, the towne bestow more pasquins upon them then I have knowne practised upon any occation under this government in my time.^a

My Lord of Northumberland is arrived heer, and pursues his journey towards Italy on Friday next. I am most respectfully, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant, HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CXCI.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Extracts, Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, 29th Novr.
9th Decr., '81.

The last I have of yours is of the 2d. I doe not give you an account of my Lord of Shaftsbury's tryal, but the next poste will

^a In the letter of the 9th Dec. he says that the "definite resolution concerning the regale is said to bee that whatever has or may have been practised in times past they doe for the future grant it to the King, judging the power of donation to lye soe wholly in themselves that the Pope receaves noe injury by this act;" the parliament objected that the decision belonged to them, and on 24th Dec. he says: "This whole business of the clergy has something of the philosopher's asse mumbling thistles."

bring you an authentick narrative. His Ldp. and the rest of the prisoners were this morning bayl'd as the new act requires at the King's Bench.^a As he came up by water soe he went down as farr as Paul's Wharfe of his own accord, and thence in Mr. Lieutenant of the Tower's coach to his own house without attendance or shouts; the King having commanded my Lord Mayor to forbid all bonfires and riotous assemblyes. This paper of M^r l'Ortie was putt into my hands just now. My Lord of Halifax spoke to me of y^e thing, but I have not an opportunity to take his Maj^{ty}s pleasure upon it. The King would have you doe offices in the affaire that concernes our consul [Mr. Lang], whose dying domestq. was disturbed with soe rude a visit. You have done already soe well upon severall occasions, that I am somewhat sorry methinks that you have any further occasions to draw you out into those sortes of combats, for, tho' I am sure you will not goe less then you are, yet they will be strict in their concessions and acknowledgements, even of things the most just and most reasonable in this world.^b

Mr. V. Chamberlain.

CXCII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, Dec. $\frac{1}{11}$, '81.

In answer to your last, I think you have reason to turn your thoughts towards home, it being time to be weary of the station you are in, especially when there is such a prospect of things abroad as may reasonably discourage you from staying much longer in your

^a Lords Shaftesbury and Howard of Escrick in a recognizance of 3,000*l.*, and each of their four sureties in half that sum. Witmore, Whitaker, &c., were also bailed.

^b In his letter of 23rd Dec. Savile said: "As for the dyeing weoman at Marseilles, in my humble opinion, there is noe medium, and his Maj^{ty} must either demand a publique arrest to exempt his subjects in this King's dominions from the like inconveniences, or his ministers must bee content to bee murmur'd against when these things happen. For my owne part, I keep all quiet heer, more by a perticuler management of the curates then by any security from the government."

present employment, and therefore I continue my endeavours to get you another here, and hope in a little time it may be brought about: but till it is, I desire you will not move for lodgings or anything else: for though I am come late to the trade of a courtier, yet I know so much of it, that it is not skillfull to press for too many things at once; and at a time where an extraordinary thing is to be done for you, and a rule broken that you may be admitted, to mention a thing that hath so unwelcome a sound at court as every thing must have where money is expected. I assure you there is no friendship in the Treasury in these cases, and your late noble friend of blessed memory hath taken sufficient care there should be no room left for doing good turns, even to the smallest proportions. I have been so sensible of the necessity I should have lodgings in Whitehall, that I have the King's promise to have the first that are to be had; but in the meantime I content myself with a little garret, where I may write a letter and retire sometimes for half an hour, which I find to be very convenient whilst I am under the necessity of spending a good many hours of the day at Court. I think we shall shortly send you another memorial upon the business of Luxembourg, which is so extraordinary that it groweth to be above our digestion, though we have of late been pretty well used to swallow. Yours, &c.

CXCH.

SAME to SAME.

London, Dec. $\frac{2}{12}$, '81.

I have not been unmindfull of you, though it is some time since you heard from me. This day order is given for a new commission of the Admiralty, in which you and Sr John Chicheley are to be added, and I am enquiring what can be alledged for your precedence in your capacity of Vice-Chamberlain, that you may suffer no diminution, if anything of that kind belongeth to you of right; if not, there is no great cause of lamenting for you. This new employ-

ment will not take away the advantage you have by the King's promise of parting with your place in the bedchamber, and I employ all your friends to hunt for a chapman, which if once got upon any reasonable terms I should think you better established than if you were Extraordinary Embassadour for your life; for this reason I was not sorry to receive the King's commands this day to tell you he would have you return home within a month or six weeks to give place to your successour, my Ld. Preston,^a who goeth under the same character you have, and is not likely to obtain a greater whilst he stayeth abroad, so that you will not have the mortification of seeing that allow'd to another which you could not obtain. I don't know how far your passion for a fair lady may make your return at this time uneasy to you, but I am such a clown as to think there are two reasons to make a man at least content to leave a mistress, for anger if she is not kind, and to cure a surfeit if she is, but this is such unmanly doctrine that I will not provoke you with any more of it. In great earnest, if you can prevail with yourself to trust me in this case without giving you at this time my particular reasons for it, I would by no means have you delay your coming over, but embrace the opportunity as one of the welcomest things, if I judge right, that could have come to you. If there is anything you can part with to more advantage to your successour than you can to anybody else, either house, furniture, &c. you may let me know, and I can propose it to him. George Legge is to be Master of the Ordinance, Sr Christopher Musgrave the Lieutenant; and my L^d Noel Governour of Portsmouth. We expected to have heard before this the memorial had been deliver'd, but I suppose the Dutch Embassadour may have stay'd longer upon the way than he intended. In case such an answer shall be given to it (which is most probable) as will immediately produce the calling a parliament, you are to consider whether you will send to your corporation of Newark, not that I would perswade you to it, if you ask my opinion; only the advertisement may be seasonable, and you may do as you see cause.

^a Formerly Sir Richard Grahme. (Luttrell's Diary.)

CXCIV.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Extracts, Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{5}{12}$ December, '81.

Here goeth enclos'd a memⁿ that Don Pedro Ronquillo gave in this day to a conference that produc'd the joint memⁿ that goes with it.^a I send you the one, and the other *de bene esse*. You will receive his Ma^{ty}s orders upon y^e joint memⁿ by the next; after that his Ma^{ty} hath seen and approved it, it is sent hence by the Dutch Min^{rs} to the Hague, and if they concurr, Mr. Staremborg will have orders to join with you in presenting it.

CXCV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, Dec. $\frac{6}{13}$ th, '81.

Mr. Secretary Jenkins telleth me he writeth to you by this post and sendeth you the memorial which is intended to be deliver'd by the Dutch Embassadour and yourself in conjunction; I do not know what success it will have, but I am sure a great deal dependeth upon it, for it is certain if the K. of France will not be perswaded to leave the town of Luxembourg at liberty, we are engaged here to call a Parliament,^b and in case that by a miracle we should grow wise and agree, the French might perhaps repent the having forced us into our right senses. I believe you are not sorry that in such a case as this a memorial is sent ready drawn to you, since it secureth you from any blame that might else be thrown upon you by saying too much or too little; besides that you would bear the greatest part of

^a In favour of Luxembourg.^b This was a promise made to the Prince of Orange.

the weight, by any thing that I hear of Embassadour Starembergh. I hear the gentleman that was thought of to purchase your place in the Bedchamber hath changed his mind, so that your friends must endeavour to find out another chapman. I hope you will furnish y^rself with a good stock of papers concerning the finances and the marine against you come over, they being things I shall be very glad to have copies of, because they may be usefull to me upon many occasions. Adieu.

CXCVI.

SAME to SAME.

London, Dec. $\frac{15}{25}$, '81.

I had yours yesterday, in which you mention the receipt of the memorial sent from hence, that will I suppose be delivered immediately upon the arrivall of the Dutch Embassadour. It will be well if it should move your great monarch to act a little less like a conquerour than he doth now in time of peace, and to offer some expedient which may be better approv'd by the Spaniards than the razing Luxembourg. I cannot think it will depend upon any thing that is done concerning that particular place so much as about the King of France his present inclinations in generall, whether the world is to have war or peace. We are not in a posture to wish the first, but if a Parliament is call'd ^a in such an exigency, I do not know but men might grow wiser, and agree to act more vigourously than would otherwise be expected from them. I will do my best to enquire out a chapman for your place, though the Court at present lyeth under such a scandal of non-payment that men's dealing with it is much discouraged. You may be sure my own interest shall no

^a In his letter of $\frac{2}{12}$ Jan. 1681-2, Mr. Secretary Jenkins said, "The Holland Ministers are now more warm than ever in pressing to have a Parliament called, for 'tis not onely the dread that Liege and Cologne may be taken in as Strasbourg was, but the very Mayerie of Dolduis being claimed as a dependency gives them cause to be very solicitous or rather anxious of the issue."

more be an argument to me in this than in any thing else where you are concerned. I must now chide you a little for your spleen, which I think hath made you mistake very much in some things you mention in your letter. Do not you remember you desired me to move the King you might return in the Spring, especially if your place in the Admiralty might be fixed before your coming? Both those things are granted you, and I expect in a little time that a new commission will be prepared, where you and S^r John Chicheley shall be added, and upon settling this matter so at your own desire, the King hath pitch'd upon a man to succeed you, and you call this an underhand dealing, and a wrong to you, and look upon it as a supplanting you; I will go further, and say though the King was not so engaged, you ought never to deliberate about your coming over, but thank God for being recalled, especially if you have so good a place to receive you when you come home. I know so much of this and am so sure I am in the right, that if you should yet have any wavering thoughts I must overrule them. You give a hint that if you had been Embassadour it would by this time have procured you a rich wife,^a and yet if you will recollect yourself, you cannot forget that when upon an intimation of one of your friends here and not upon your own, I sent to you to know the truth of it, your answer was that it was so remote and uncertain a prospect that you did not at all build upon it; this being the case, it seemeth to me you have as little reason to complain of what is past as you have to entertain such despairing thoughts of your condition, w^{ch} I hope deserveth better words from you, or at least will do when you are return'd and settled in your employment. I wish it for your sake as well as my own that it may be soon, and then you shall have the second part of a kind chiding. Adieu.

^a Anne countess dowager of Manchester, who afterwards married Mr. Montague. In the *State Poems* (vol. iii. 76, ed. 1704), under *Queries and Answers from Garraway's Coffee-house*, is the Q. "How came Montague to gain the widow from Savile?"—

A. "The one was witty in going to bed; the other wiser in cutting the bell-rope."

CXC VII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office Extracts.]

Sr,

Paris, Jan. 7, 1682, N. S.

On Monday night the Dutch Amb^{dr} returned hither from Holland. Yesterday I came hither from St. Germain on purpose to speake with him, and wee agree to send this morning to demand our audiance for delivering the joint memoriall, which has been too long upon the stage not to have taken winde, it beeing severall dayes since some in earnest and some in raillery asked mee when this great businesse was to appeare. All the advantage I could make of its beeing publick was to guesse what sorte of successe it is like to have, which I suppose you doe allready know by a courier sent to Mon. de Barillon 6 or 7 dayes since, for I doubt not but our answer will bee in generall tearmes: what is more perticularly resolved is likelier to passe (as all other things of moment doe) by this King's Ministers at London and the Hague than by us heer; in the mean time people vex me with strange reportes of returnes of great summes,^a which I shall ever thinke impossible.

On Sunday last the Amb^{dr} of Morocco had audiance, but was retrenched some of the ceremonyes usually performed to that character: the guardes standing onely in ranke, not to theire armes, as hee passed, nor was hee conducted by the Mareschal of France, but onely by the introduction of Ambass^{drs}. The reasons given for this distinction beeing that the Emp^r of Morocco is tributary to the grand Sig^{re}, and that an Amb^{dr} from a King of Ardres in Africa some yeares since was received in y^e same manner; but if

^a Writing on 17th Nov. 1681, Barillon said that he had offered Hyde a million livres to be added to the yearly payment to Charles by Louis, for allowing the French to seize Luxembourg; and after many conferences Barillon on 1st Dec. informed his master that his proposals had been accepted by Charles and Hyde. (Dalr. App. 21.) The siege was raised in 1682, but the town was taken on a renewed siege in 1684. By the treaty of Ruysswick, in 1697, France restored Mons, Charleroi, and Courtray, (taken 6th Nov. 1683,) and Luxembourg, to Spain, but kept Strasbourg.

they understood these kind of niceties I beleieve neither of these reasons would passe for very good ones att Fez. The Amb^{dr} is a handsome old man, and those who converse with him say an ingenious one: hee speakes Spanish pretty well. The Governour of Salley is with him, and they have brought eache of them a nephew, which with foure servants and two trunks make up all their retinew and baggage: their presents are foure ostriches, one hee and one shee lyon, with a tame tygresse.^a His businesse is said to be to propose a treaty of comerce. They eate noething but what they see killed. Their stay will not bee long: their returne by Toulon, whence the Marquis de la Porte conveys them in a shipp of 44 gunns to Salley. . . .

Above 30,000 pistoles have been payd within a very few dayes to the Elector of Brandenburg's Minister heer: I thinke wee had best bee candid enough to thinke it an arrear of what this King obliged himselfe to pay upon the peace of Nimeguen to make the Swedes conditions better.^b

The money matters this week runn thus: into Provence 600,000*liv.*, to Rochefort 300,000, to Brest 400,000, to Dunkirque 200,000, whither Mon^r. de Segnelay begins his journey to-morrow [to Havre, Calais, and Dunkirk].

I made my excuses last poste by Mr. Cooke for my silence to you, hoping my credit in point of punctuality is good enough with you to beleieve that when I omitt writing it is rather for want of matter then deligence. I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Secy Jenkins.

^a Another ambassador from Morocco arrived in England on $\frac{11}{11}$ January, 1681-2, bringing with him many presents, including lions sent to the Tower; he and his suite were much flocked after, and exhibited their prowess before the King in Hyde Park in managing their Barbary horses and shooting: they visited the play-houses and bear-garden, St. Paul's, and Westminster Abbey and Hall; hunted with the Duke of Monmouth at New Park; and were entertained by the benchers of Lincoln's Inn, at both the Universities, and by the King at Newmarket and Windsor: the audience on taking leave being had on 15th June. (Luttrell's Diary, i. 154—206.)

^b See ante, p. 104.

CXCVIII.

SAME to SAME.

[Ibid.]

Sr,

Paris, Jan. 13, 1613, N.S.

I have been as sparing in sending expresses as any man his Maj^{ty} has employ'd abroad, this beeing but the second in three yeares, but I can not forbear giving you the speediest account of what has hapn'd this morning at St. Germain's, where the Ambass^{dr} of Holland and myselfe went to shew Mon^r de Croissy the mem^{ll} wee designed to give his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} to-morrow. As soon as wee were in his chamber, addressing his discourse to mee, hee said hee had orders from his master to tell us that hee gave no audiances to more then one Ambass^{dr} at a time unlesse they were colleagues imployd by the same Prince. I told him my businesse was so linked with that of the Dutch Amb^{dr} that if I were not heard jointly with him I had noe businesse at all. Hee answered, that all Princes were free to make what leagues they pleased in their owne courts, but the King his master did not intend they should make any in his; to which I replied, that if the King would not heare mee jointly with the Dutch Amb^{dr} I renounced to any share in the audience appointed to-morrow, and desired him to tell the King soe. The D. Amb^r said as much and soe wee parted, thinking it better not to deliver the memoriall then to deliver it separately; in which I have kept soe strictly to my orders that I presume his Maj^{ty} will not find any fault with this proceeding, but rather thinke it hard I should bee refused audience in the manner I desired it: upon which point very much may bee said, it beeing obvious that reserves of this kind have never been practised in any court to foreigne ministers; but let his Maj^{ty} make his owne construction of it, and bee you pleased to let mee know his orders.

The Morocco Amb^{dr} is much commended for his civility and

ingenuity; his negociation is said to be to establishe a comerce, but I doe on my particuler knowledge assure you hee has made offers to land 20,000 men in Spaine if this King would find the shippes for theire transportation, and why not bring the Moores into Spaine as well as the Turkes into Hungary;^a it were as becomeing a Most X^{ian} King! I am apt to think alsoe the Ambass^{dr} may be driving the bargain about a place upon the coast of Africa of w^{ch} I gave you notice some monthes since; nor can I cure mysele of the feare that what Col^l Kirke^b advertised you of may have more truth in it then some apprehend.

I have either by mysele or my friend given you an exacter account of money matters then has perhaps been formerly sent, but I know not whether you have well observed this last act of his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} of stretching all the moneyes lent him upon the deniers 14, 16, and 18, up to 20; offering to reimburse such as had rather have their principle then lend it upon such tearmes, which if all should choose (as in prudence they ought) it would require three score and two millions, a summe impossible to procure at a time that Mon^r Colbert presses the farmers to find onely fifteen millions before Easter for the necessary expences of the State, but it is now found that all who demand reimbursement are forc'd to submitt att last by the difficultyes found either by rayting up theire creditors, and some other indirect meanes, of which there are too many sortes to enumerate.

The great affaire of the Regale is now accomodated, as you will soon see in print, and that the clergy have been too hard for his Most X^{an} Ma^{ty}, making him rayse a dispute about one priviledge w^{ch} ends wth his parting with another.

^a During his contentions with the house of Austria Louis had stimulated the Turks to make war on the Emperor and create a diversion in his favour. At the beginning of 1682 formidable preparations announced to Europe that a great expedition was about to pour into Hungary, and support the insurgent population there against the Emperor Leopold.

^b Governor of Tangier. His letter is not among the MSS.

I send you by the bearer all the *Arrests de la Chambre de Metz*, w^{ch} may perhaps bee of some use or at least diversion to you.^a

I shall expect with some impatience the returne of this man with your directions; hoping his Maj^{ty} will thinke it more important to justifie my speaking jointly with y^e Dutch Amb^{dr} then, yeelding that point, make mee act singly. I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CXCIX.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, Jan. $\frac{4}{18}$, '81-2.

I writ to you last post of your being put with S^r John Chicheley into the new Commission of Admiralty, and I did not forget to do all I could to preserve the rank due to your office of Vice-Chamberlain, but, upon searching precedents, we cannot find that there appeareth enough to justify your precedence. It falleth out pretty well that my Lord Brounkard was placed in the commission, not according to his quality, but the time of his entrance, so that you must come after him, and at a venture we will get you placed before S^r John Chicheley, who I hope will not dispute it; if he should, I will not undertake you shall succeed in the contest.^b R. Spencer told me he would write to you about his nephew, so that I need say nothing of it, but leave it to you to judge how far it is adviseable for you to stir in a thing of that kind, which nobody can do so well at this distance. I have not time to add any more but that I am yours.

^a On 20th Dec. Savile said, "The Chamber of Metz, which wee were told was abolished, begins to discover new dependencies, more especially about Liege; but, what is more extraordinary, they have brought under that predicament some streets in the very towne of Mayence, and severall seignuries beyond the Rhine."

^b The new Admiralty Commission bore date 20th Jan. O. S. 1682. Henry Savile was sixth Commissioner, after Lord Brounker and before Sir John Chicheley; he was continued in all the Commissions till 22nd May, 1684, when the last Commission was revoked, and Charles declared himself Lord High Admiral.

CC.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, $\frac{9}{18}$ Jan., at 9 at night.

Yo^r express arrived here yesterday at 2 a clock in the morning. I had the hon^r to shew yo^r letter of the 13th to his Ma^{ty} at 8th, who was not much surpriz'd at y^e incident, but did approve perfectly of w^t you had done. His Ma^{ty} comanded me forthwith to communicate the thing to M^{rs} Ronquillo, Van Zitters, and Van Beuninghen. At 5 at night they waited on his Ma^{ty} and were all of them of the King's sentiment, that noe time was to be lost, but that the memⁿ was to be given by the Dutch Amb^r and yo^rself severally, since you were not permitted to doe it jointly. His Ma^{ty} did as good as determine it soe then, and that the express sh^d hasten back to you with this order; this is the cause that there are letters that goe inclosed from Dⁿ Pedro Ronquillo and the Dutch Amb^r that were written and sent me last night upon supposal that y^e express sh^d be sent away last night; but the King being willing to bring this matter before the Committee of Forrein Affaires, the bearer is not dispatcht till now that y^e Committee is up. Upon y^e whole matter there was not one of my L^{ds} that was not very well satisfyed (as his Ma^{ty} declared himselfe more then once to be) with what you had done; and that, yo^r orders beeing as they were, you could not in prudence have done otherwise. The King would not enter into a contestation with that Court upon this point; there might be some [cypher] pretextes used which c^d not well be answer'd; as put the case that [the] Most Xⁿ King would resolve with himself to answer one Min^r one way and the other another way, (such a col^r might be pretended,) and they in y^e interim gaine their aim, which is to delay the answer upon the matter.

Besides we could not here made out one preced^t for us in that Court, though we have enough in our own; for Mr. Van Beuninghen confess'd that he and Mr. Sec^y Trevor had never any audience

together in France, though there were several mem^{ls}, whereof some are in print, given in both their names.^a In a word, his Ma^{ty}s order to you is, that you give in the same mem^l singly and separately, *mutatis mutandis*; and we hope that his Ex^{cy} the Dutch Amb^r will give in the same mem^l on his part; for he will find it to be y^e sense of M^{rs} Van Citters and Van Beuninghen that he-sh^d doe soe.

We have noe letters frether then those of y^e 13th from Flanders: they had news there y^t the French troopes were withdrawing from about Luxemburg in order to leave y^e entry free; but, this beeing newes out of the French quart^{rs}, they write us word that it needs confirmation.

I must confess I read y^r predictions some weeks ago about the fate of that town; nor can anything of hopes that y^e French Amb^r w^d seem to give us, that all will be yet quiet and well, abate anything of my feare that y^e *bienseance* of that place to France will prove an irresistible temptation.

Yo^{rs} of the 7th, 10th, and y^e rest of y^e 13th were all read before the King, but produced nothing of direction upon any of them, onely it is very well that they doe demonstrate to us that there is cause to watch the Morocco Amb^r.^b I humbly thank you for my book, and beseech (you) to believe that I am, &c.

Mr. Vice Chamberlain.

^a In his letter of 17th January Savile added, "Foreigne Ministers have heer busied themselves with finding examples of Ministers of different crownes having audiance together upon y^e same businesse, of which there are soe many that it has been practised three or foure times by this very King; but where reason doe soe apparently require a practise I doe not build upon confirming it by custome, nor upon this occasion should I have in the least grudged to stand with my hatt off whilst the Dutch Amb^{dr} had it on, ever preferring the essentiall part of businesse to y^e formes of it, how disagreeable soever. . . . I cannot conclude without wondring att the reportes of this towne, w^{ch} will have it that this King's troopes are drawn off from Luxembourg. In that case I can not phancy they would have refused to heare us; but our answer was calme and gentle in comparison of one given y^e Spanishe Amb^{dr} on Wednesday, who, pressing for an answer to a memoriall hee had long delivered, was told hee should have an answer sooner then he desired it."

^b The Morocco Ambassador who came to England, had a private audiance on 14th January, but made no overture on business, and only enlargements on "the sincerity of his

CCI.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

Jan. ⁹/₁₈, '81.

This cometh to you by the express you sent to us, and, though the objection made to a joint memorial is a little extraordinary, considering they had received one of the same kind lately without taking any exceptions; yet, since his Christian Majesty will not allow

master's friendship." The Emperor in his credentials said that "we need have noe apprehension for Tanger: it shall be safe from the Moores and from all others, tho' there sh^d be but one woman to keep it." (Secretary's Letter Book.) The real object was to obtain a treaty of peace with Tangiers, which was signed 22 February, O.S. On 26th Jan. O.S., Jenkins said, "The Amb^r shoves himself a rational civil person, but (between you and me) he absolutely denyes him that is with you in that Court to have any power or character from his King, and affirms that he is come into France from y^e Governor of Sallée, onely to recover some shippes or vessels y^t y^e French have taken from them, and to settle a commerce between that government and France. I pray lett us hear from you what y^e man hath done besides his gallantyes in y^e Gazette." (Ibid.) A treaty of commerce with France for six years was agreed to, and on 11th February Savile replied, "I wondred at what your Morocco Ambassadour says of ours heer, there beeing noething to make us doubt of his coming from that King but some mincing the matter in point of ceremony at his reception, which I confesse makes mee suspect something of what is averr'd on your side." The letter of the Emperor to Charles II. is published in Familiar Letters, (ed. 1699, vol. ii. 103,) in which he alludes to his recent conquest of Sallée, and calls the people "rebellious pirates." He goes on, "Since it hath pleased God to be so auspicious to our beginnings in the conquest of Sallée, we might join and proceed with hope of like success in the wars of Tunis, Algiers, and other places (dens and receptacles of the inhumane villaines of those who abhor rule and government). Herein, whilst we interrupt the corruption of malignant spirits of the world, we shall glorifie the great God and perform a duty that shall shine as glorious as the sun and moon, which all the earth may see and reverence: a work that shall ascend as sweet as the perfume of the most precious odour in the nostrils of the Lord, a work grateful and happy to men; a work whose memory shall be revered so long as there shall be any remaining amongst men that love and honour the piety and virtue of noble minds. . . . Now because the islands which you govern have been ever famous for the unconquered strength of their shipping, I have sentt this my trusty servant and Ambassadour to know whether, in your princely wisdom, you shall think fit to assist me with such forces at sea as shall be answerable to those I provide by land, which if you please to grant, I doubt not but the Lord of Hosts will protect and assist those that fight in so glorious a cause."

that method, he must be comply'd with in his own, and there is no more to be done but to follow the directions you will receive from Mr. Secretary, to put the plural number into the singular w^{ch} was intended to have been presented jointly: this manner of proceeding doth not afford any great hopes of a good answer, but, let it be what it will, it will be good to have it as soon as may be, that we may be able to take our resolutions here accordingly. My Lord Preston sayeth he will write to you by this conveyance, and desireth to know whether you have a secretary that you would think fit to recommend to him. I told you in a former letter that it might perhaps be convenient to you as well as to him to deal with him for your house and several other things that nobody else will so well take off y^r hands; therefore pray let me know, that I may acquaint him, and perswade him to send over somebody to treat with you upon those matters. Your friends here conclude it will be best for you to come over hither before he stirreth from hence, and, since your three years will be out by the end of February, I would by no means have you stay any longer. My L^d Hyde, who writeth to you, is of the same opinion, and so is Harry Guy, and you must allow us to overrule you, in case you should be otherwise inclined. There are very many reasons for your hastening home, if all your friends do not mistake, but there is one very scurvy one, which will perhaps surprize you, as it did me when I first found it. I moved the King concerning a man that offer'd himself to treat for your place in the Bedchamber, and, taking it for granted you had his promise, I did not expect any difficulties in gaining his consent, but I was much disappointed when he told me he had not given you his promise but with reserves, and that he never intended it when you had so good a place as this in the Admiralty, which he hath so lately bestow'd upon you. I was not wanting to press him as much as was fit, and left it there; but, lamenting my ill success to my L^d Hyde, and asking his opinion, as much the more knowing courtier, what I should do further in it, he advised me to move no more, [for] fear of drawing on a second refusall, but that I should let it rest till you come, and then he did

not at all doubt but you would prevail better for yourself than any of your friends could do for you. H. Guy is of the same mind too, so that I am afraid to differ with men that understand the methods of the Court better than I can pretend to; if you think otherwise, I am ready to do in this as in all other things that concern you just as you would have me; I will only put you in mind once more that in this consideration as well as in many others it is advisable for you to make haste home. Adieu.

CCII.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

Sr,

Paris, Jan. 31, '82.

I have soe little to say by this poste that I thought once of writing onely to Mr. Cooke, not to yourselfe, espeacially since the enclosed Gazette has taken the paynes to say all that relates to the audiances given to the Dutch Amb^{dr} and myselfe, nor can I add anything upon that subject till I have the answer I dayly expect; which Mon^r de Barillon will soe certainly have before mee that out of that consideration I shall not send an expresse, let the importance of it bee never soe great.^a

The crowde of stuffe relating to religion comes to you by another hand as well as the account of money matters. A substantiall banquier is to bee hanged heer to-day for making bankrupt; I know

^a In his letter of 26th January (*i. e.* 5th February), Mr. Secretary Jenkins replied, "You will see by the inclosed mem^l that you had reason to say that y^e answer to your mem^l hath been sent to the French Amb^r here. It was communicated late last night to y^e Spanish and Dutch Min^{rs} here; they have thereupon demanded a conference, and his Mat^y hath appointed my L^d yo^r brother and several others to wait on them to-morrow;" and acknowledging this on the 11th February, Savile said, "I have the honour of yours, with the memoriall delivered on the 25th by Monsieur Barillon, and by this time I hope you will have receaved the answer to my memoriall heer: which of them his Maj^{ty} will like best I know not, but it is now plaine enough Luxembourg is to continue under its present restraint till better arguments than paper ones can bee found."

not whether that bee y^e best way of preventing others from y^e like practises.

I doubt not but you observe that his M. X^{an} Maj^{ty} has again taken the resolution of making a port at Ambletuse; that darts too directly for mee to make any comments upon it. I am, S^r, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

Mr. Sec^y Jenkins.

CCIII.

Sir L. JENKINS, to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book Extracts.]

SIR,

Whitehall, 23 January, '81-2.
3 February.

Mr. Barillon's courier that occasioned y^e great consultation is now returned hither; what he brought with him time must shew.^a

This day began the terme. Lord Shaftsbury and the rest that are to be discharged without bayle last day of this tearme enter'd their appearance this day in order to their discharge. We reckon that we have the major part of the Common Council, soe that we are secure (in some measure) that y^e legislative part of the city will not dash with the Government, though the rabble would beat the main stroke because of the election of Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, &c. in setting up the men in place, will stick to the anti-monarchical interest. They are now in many loyal countyes meditating of *abhorences* (another sort of addresse) for the "Association," found in my Lord of Shaftsbury's closett. Besides the Justices in their twelfth tyde Sessions have putt out orders (some are in print) to put the

^a Savile had written on the 21st January, "Though my courier bee not yet returned, I have reason to thinke there is one very lately arrived from Mons^r Barillon: great counceills were held yesterday and the day before amongst onely such as are in the privacy of foreigne affaires" On the 24th, having acknowledged the receipt of the orders of 1st January, he says, "I went immediately to the Dutch Ambass^{dr}, who upon the letter receaved from Messieurs Van Citters and Van Buninghen did not hesitate to send as well as myselfe to Mons^r de Croissy for separate audiences;" and on the 27th, "The Dutch Amb^{dr}s expresse is alsoe arrived, with orders to take the same method that shall bee prescribed to mee from England: to morrow morning is appointed for his audiance, and Thursday for mine."

laws in execution ag^t fanatiq.^a This we are doing here in expectation of what will become of us upon the answer you are to receive on that side. I guess by that to Mr de Fuentes it will [be] through us into a negociation, and the termes will not be tolerable in the matter or y^e manner. We must doe as well as we can. I am, &c.

CCIV.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, ^{Jan. 23} Feby. 3rd '81-2.

I had yours yesterday, and by what you write to Mr. Secretary I find we are to stay a little longer for an answer, which by what appeareth yet is not like to be very satisfactory when it cometh. Your letter to my Lord Preston is deliver'd, and I suppose he will write to you about those of your servants which you are willing to discharge, he seeming desirous to receive them into his service; in the mean time, I am glad you dispose yourself to come over suddenly, and if I can judge right for you, the sooner you do it the better; but a supply from hence being it seems such a necessary thing to you at this time, I have moved my L^d Hyde in it, and he is willing to advance what will be due for your allowance when you come away, but is somewhat more difficult upon the payment of what your extraordinaries may amount to so long beforehand. H. Guy is of opinion that in time he may be brought to it, but thinketh he is to be prevail'd upon by degrees, and in that method I shall not be wanting to do my part for you. I think you look upon your matter of the Bedchamber with a more despairing

^a These addresses began at Blandford, L^d Shaftesbury being a Dorsetshire man : Somerset, Middlesex Justices, Durham, and Gloucester followed, and even the Benchers of Gray's Inn and Barristers of the Middle Temple joined in the movement. (Ralph, i. 668.) Among the State Papers are similar addresses presented between January and October ; and Luttrell in his diary gives a further list, including the Inner Temple and Lincoln's Inn, the university of Cambridge, the grand juries and magistrates of 38 English counties, above 60 English boroughs, and several places in Ireland, from which like addresses were presented.

eye than it requireth, for, besides that your friends make little doubt of your prevailing with the King when you come yourself, I do not find any body thinketh your place is sunk by this new one you have in the Admiralty, but that your title to it remaineth as it did; so that I see no reason for the agonies you seem to be in upon this subject. I agree with you in your resolutions concerning yourself in case of a Parliament, for believe me the best place in either house is where a man may have the entertainment of hearing without the obligation of speaking. R. Spencer telleth me he will write to you, so that you must expect the trouble of making your own answer, though I shall not neglect in the meantime to prepare him for it. Adieu.

CCV.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[Extracts, MSS. State Paper Office.]

Sr,

Paris, Feb. 4, '82.

I went yesterday to St. Germain's to aske Mon^r de Croissy for an answer to the memoriall concernning Luxembourg: hee told mee it was not yet ready, but made mee hope I should have it to-day. I perceive it will not bee time enough to send by this poste, for I have deferr'd writing to the last moment in expectation of it.^a

^a The answer was inclosed in a letter of the 7th, and Jenkins on $\frac{2}{12}$ February said that the Spanish and Dutch Ministers in London understood it as a flat refusal to cease the *voyes de fait* before Luxembourg, and therefore pressed with all earnestness to have a Parliament called out of hand; although, as Jenkins told Sir H. Goodrick, neither of the Ministers could frame to himself any probable hopes that a Parliament sitting would be any help to a negociation of that kind, much less that they would enable his Majesty to enter into a war with France. In "The Idea of the Court of France and the Method of their Proceedings from the time of the Peace of Nimeguen until the Spring of the year 1684," (translated into English 1711,) ascribed to Don Pedro Ronquillo, it is said (p. 39), "Under cover of taking possession, the French hindered all the provisions from being carried into Luxembourg, neither would they suffer any person whatsoever to come out of it;" and that the King of England "looked on and saw all this without appearing to be the least concerned at it; and so secure was the King of France of that prince, that he did

I send you the King's edict concerning the regale, which ends all that tedious affaire heer, and I suppose will doe soe at Rome by the helpe of a letter the assembly of the clergy are preparing to send to the Pope.^a . . .

In a letter I have from the Princesse d'Espinoy shee renounces that part in the conversion of the merchant's daughter which hee gives her; but by other things shee said of the matter I doubt shee has had a hand in it: I shall doe what I can, but beleeeve Mon^r Barillon can doe more if hee doe his best, since you have spoake to him concerning it.

I shall give you noe further trouble at present but to receave the continued assurances of my respects as beeing, Sr, your most faithfull and most humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

not only continue his hostilities, but did offer to make him the judge of all his pretensions." The Earl of Conway writing on the 7th of March, 1681-2, to Sir L. Jenkins, however, said (MSS. State Paper Office, Domestic), "His Majesty was very sensible that the Prince of Orange would not carry on affairs in Holland to such a height nor go so far to bring a war upon Flanders if he were not encouraged and directed to it by the disaffected party in England, among which he thinks Mr. [H.] Sydney a great agent. . . . His Majesty's commands are that my Lord Hallyfax, my Lord Hyde, and yourselfe, should speake with the French Ambassador [M. Barillon] in such manner as you think fit, and as positively as you shall judge most proper upon this occasion, for the obtaining a free passage for provisions into Luxembourg;" and on the 13th Lord Conway says, "Mon^r Barillon doth assure his Mat^y that he hath writt with all the earnestnesse imaginable to procure provisions to goe into Luxembourg, and doth hope to attaine it;" and on the 17th, that the blockade was raised at the instance of Charles; and further Conway said on the 21st March, "Mr. Sidney came hither (Newmarket) yesterday, and was much surprised at the releefe of Luxembourg. His Mat^y found it both in his countenance and discourse, and was so malicious, to use the French phrase, as to presse him the harder upon it."

^a At the assembly of French clergy four famous *propositions* were made, which formed the basis of the liberties of the Gallican Church. 1. That the power of the Pope extends only to things spiritual, and has no concern with temporal matters; 2. That the authority of the Pope in spiritual matters is subordinate to a general council; 3. That it is even limited by the Canons, the customs and constitution of the kingdom, and the Gallican Church; 4. That in matters of faith the Pope's authority is not infallible.

CCVI.

Sir L. JENKINS to HENRY SAVILE.

[Secretary's Letter Book.]

SIR,

Whitehall, 30th January, '81-2.
9 February,

I have yo^{rs} of the 27th and 31st of January and of the 4th of Febr. before me. They have been all read to his Ma^{ty}. That which we are in paine about is the mem^l that the French Amb^r hath given in (or rather the proposition) for a treaty about the razing and quitting of Luxembourg. The Spanish and Dutch Min^{rs} would have it to be a positive and final answer to yo^r mem^l; but yo^r letter of the 4th hath clear'd that point that it is not soe intended; for you are promised a particular answer to yo^r mem^l. They would have the Proposition rejected and a Parliament call'd out of hand; but his Ma^{ty} answer'd them that they had not reason to call a Parlm^t out of hand; for that his Ma^{ty} having had a proposition putt into his hands from the Most Christian King he was under an obligation to communicate it to the states his allyes, and not make any step till he sh^d have the issue of their judgem^t and resolutⁿ upon it.

This answer hath been soe misunderstood as if his Ma^{ty} w^d now decline the calling of his Parlm^t; and it is the vogue of the town at this time, spread at first by the forrain Min^{rs}; and that we have French money for betraying the allyes;^a and yo^r very acquaintance in Mon^r de Croissy's house is made an argument against us; as if you (notwithstanding yo^r zeal is soe well known and applauded by all mankind) were accessory to y^e betraying of the publiq cause; and letters to that effect are pretended to be writ from Paris to this town. But all this notwithstanding we are fixt in an expectation of what the States will resolve upon Mon^r Barillon's proposition. I am, &c.

Mr. Vice Chamberlain.

^a True enough.

CCVII.

Earl of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, Feb. 20, '81-2.
March 2,

I saw the King sign your letters of revocation this night; and Mr. Secretary promiseth to send them away by this post;^a so that I hope you will come over as soon as ever you receive them, all other impediments being so fully removed. My Lady Portsmouth intendeth to begin her journey, as I hear, the 2^d week in March, by which time you may be here if you have a mind to make haste home. I will not repeat anything concerning the murtherers of Mr. Thynne, but that this day Count Konningsmark was taken at Gravesend;^b and upon his examination the appearances are so much against him that he is sent to my Lord Chief Justice, who probably will lodge him in Newgate.^c Sir T. Thynne is come to town to help to prosecute. Adieu.

^a On 21st Feb. Savile had told Mr. Secretary Jenkins: "The next may tell you, if I receive my letters of revocation from your handes in a poste or two, that I am alsoe taking my leave to goe home and enjoy the benefit of his Maj^{ty}'s grace and abundant favour to mee in placing mee in the Admiralty. It shall bee then, Sr, that I shall render you my most humble thanks for the most obliging considerations you have ever been pleased to have of mee since I have been in your province, pardoning and concealing such errours as I am very sure I can not but have committed." The letters of revocation were sent by Sir L. Jenkins on 20th Feb. (*i. e.* 2nd March) accompanied with the expressions of good will mentioned in the introduction.

^b The murder took place on the 12th February. The Count was taken in disguise by a servant of the Duke of Monmouth just as he was stepping out of a sculler, intending to embark next day in a Swedish ship. (See Sir J. Reresby's Mem. 135, &c.)

^c The three principals were convicted; but the jury, who were half foreigners, acquitted the Count as accessory, who immediately left England. He was about to be followed by Lords Cavendish and Mordaunt, and to be called upon to give satisfaction to them for the injury done to their relative, but they were stopped by Lord Aylesbury; and on the 11th March, 1681-2 O. S., the Earl of Conway, speaking of Lord Aylesbury's desire that his Ma^{ty} should by his injunctions and command confirm what his lordship had done to Lord Cavendish and Lord Mordaunt to prevent their going over to fight Count Coningsmark, informs Mr. Secretary Jenkins: "His Ma^{ty} thinks that their parolle given to his lordship is a greater tye upon them than any injunctions whatever; and that if his Ma^{ty} should interpose with

CCVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Feb. 23, '81-2.
March 5,

It was not for want of pressing that your letters of revocation did not come sooner to you; and I assure you there was some difficulty in getting them at all till my L^d Preston went over; but I thought I did you a good office in several respects in getting your leave to return before he set out. My Lady Portsmouth^a beginneth her journey on Wednesday; so that it will be at your choice whether you will meet her upon the road, or, like a more civil gentleman, stay at Paris *pour faire les honneurs*; though, since you have disposed all things for your return, and pack'd up your goods in order to it, I do not see how you can delay your journey without some diminution to your character; but of this you are the best judge.^b I am in expectation of the book you have bought for me, because you know my taste well enough to guess what I shall be pleased with, though I was a little startled with the sound of six volumes. The Spanish

his authority they would think themselves disengaged of their parole." But on the 23rd March Conway conveyed the King's commands to Mr. Secretary Jenkins to do what he thought fitt to prevent the duel. "My Lord Aylesbury proposes a writ of *ne exeat regnum*. His Ma^{ty}s commands are that you should advise with my Lord Chancellor about it, and doe what his lordship thinks fit;" and a writ of *ne exeat* was awarded against and served on them. (Luttrell's Diary, i. 174.)

^a The Duchess went over with her son the Duke of Richmond, who, to flatter her pride, was treated with all the honours of a prince of the blood. The object of her journey is stated by Ferguson to have been, as agent of the two courts, to carry out the money treaty and alliance against Spain.

^b Henry Savile's last letter from Paris is dated 18th March, N.S. 1681-2; and Richard Viscount Preston, who succeeded him, is called by Ralph "a creature of the Duke" of York. On 22d March O. S. Luttrell noticed the arrival of Henry Savile in London and his journey to Newmarket "to give his Majesty an account of his negotiation." The Duke of York was there and the Earl of Halifax, for the Earl of Conway, writing on the 20th March O. S. from Newmarket, said, "I was surprised yesterday morning to see my Lord Hallifax here, having heard nothing of it from you. The Duke [of York, who had just come from Scotland] received him with great kindnesse, and severall conferences they have had together. I hope they will agree well." The Earl of Halifax returned to town on the 25th.

proverb often cometh in my mind, *es descredito el mucho*; but I am tyed to no opinion without allowing some exceptions, especially in this case where your own person is such an instance that there may be a great deal of what is very good. Adieu.

CCIX.

HENRY SAVILE to Sir L. JENKINS.

[MSS. State Paper Office.]

S^r,Febr 3 (O. S.), '82-3.^a

In obedience to your comands I have recollected what contests I had during my employment in France concerning the M. X^{an} King's new edicts in point of religion, from which I ever maintain'd that the King's subjects were exempt. Not to trouble you with every little accident of this kind, I shall mention the two most materiall.

The first was the case of Mrs. Bikerton; to whom, on her death-bed, the comissary caryed the curate according to y^e methods of y^e edict. Of this I complain'd to Mon^r de Croissy, who, justifieing the proceeding, I demanded an audiance of y^e King himselfe; who, beeing prepossessed in the matter, did alsoe argue the reason ableness of the thing. All my arguments against it weigh'd but little with him, till I shew'd him his owne printed edict, where it beeing particularly specifiyd *nos sujets* hee did himselfe allow mee in y^e right, and accordingly gave order that all comissaries should bee warned to forbear the like proceedings for the future.

The second dispute hapned in y^e case of my Lord William Hamilton;^b to whom the curate went alone without y^e comissary, contrary to y^e forme of y^e edict. This made my complaint soe justifiable in y^e manner as well as y^e matter that I would not bee contented with anything lesse then the curate's coming to my house

^a For nearly another year we have none of Savile's letters. He seems to have attended to his new duties at the Admiralty, and not to have been in attendance on the Court.

^b See ante, p. 204.

to aske my pardon. This Mon^r de Croissy told mee was impossible to obtain; but, upon speaking to his Most X^{ian} Maj^{ty} hee comanded the Archbysshop of Paris to order the curate to doe what I desired; which accordingly was perfermed soe well that noething of y^e like kind hapned during the remainder of my employment.

I shall add noething further but that I humbly conceive the King's subjects are and ought to bee in France on the foot of y^e Treaty of Nantes, that beeing the rule of religion there att the time of the last peace concluded betwixt the two crownes. If it bee otherwise soe many accidents will dayly happen that it will at last bee matter of very great clamour; it beeing made according to y^e new edicts very uneasy either to live or die in France.

I am, S^r, y^r most obedient humble servant,

HEN. SAVILE.

R^t Hon^{ble} Mr. Secy Jenkins.

[Enclosure.]

The following treaties are referred to in an enclosure to shew how far the King's subjects living within the Most Christian King's dominions are by the treaty subject to the laws of France in matters of religion, &c. Treaty 1596 at London, art. 19°. In 1603 a negociation of a treaty being on foot at London, which ended afterwards in the treaty of 1606, it was proposed by the English Commissioners among themselves that, for the encouragement of the English trade and traders in France, provision should be in the first place made for their free and full enjoyment of their religion, &c. under these heads,—no research or inquisition, &c.; liberty to resort to the public assemblies, &c.; and several others. To which the English merchants answered that the general article of the Treaty of 1596 was sufficient, and they said they had liberty of conscience thereby as much as they desired. The treaty of 1606 not only confirms that of 1596, but itself expressly provides an article (24). This treaty of 1606 is still in force as beeing continually accepted by the succeeding kings on both parts: viz., 1626 by his late Majesty by his letter to the Most Christian King, and by that king personally in presence of the Earl of Holland, &c., then Ambassador at Paris; 1644 by Louis XIV. at Paris; in presence of my Lord Goring, then Ambassador from his late Majesty; and 1660 on the part of his Majesty by my Lord St. Alban, then Ambassador at Paris.

CCX.

HENRY SAVILE to the Marquess of HALIFAX.^a

Newmarket, March 8, O. S. '82-3.

It looks negligent not to write, and it is impertinent to trouble you when I have no matter for it; our life here being so regular that it is not interrupted by any accidents. The mornings are spent on horseback, the afternoons at cockmatches, the evenings taking the air, and the nights at cards.^b There is very little company but what belongs to the Court; and of that there was but a thin appearance till my L^d Ranelagh and my L^d Churchill came with the French Embassadour on Tuesday; yesterday my Lords of Clarendon, Feversham, and Nottingham; and to-night we expect Mad. de Mazarin with her usual train. A Scotch gentleman, much consider'd by the Duke, had some words yesterday over his cups with my L^d of Arran, his lordship apparently the aggressour. They had both the wit to stifle the thing, and made their own reconciliation without the King's taking notice of it; though the Duke of Albe-marle and his guards had prevented any mischief. The Dutchess has been to make my Lord St Alban's a visit at Mr. Jermyn's house, a mile from this place.^c The old man has at last renounced to the

^a He had been created Marquess of Halifax 17th August, 1682.

^b Other letters shew that the Court life at Newmarket was sufficiently dull. In the letter of the Earl of Conway thence on the 7th March, 1680-1, he tells Sir L. Jenkins: "I found his Majesty so much alone that for his diversion he was forced to play at bassett; and as I am informed retires to his chamber every night at 9 o'clock." Nor was the King always successful in his favourite sport, horseracing. In his letter of 10th March O. S. the Earl of Conway informs Mr. Secretary Jenkins: "The King's horse, called Corke, had the ill fortune to be beaten by Mr. Rider's, called the French horse; and the crack this day is 6 to 4 on Sir Rob. Car's horse called Postboy against a gelding of his Maj^{ty}s called Mouse. Pray don't acquaint my Lord Halifax with this, for he will laugh at us secretaries for communicating such secrets, which I assure you is all the place affords." And next day: "The King's horse lost yesterday, and there is no less than 3 to 1 generally offered against his horse that is to run this afternoon."

^c Cheveley, formerly the residence of the Cottons. Sir John Cotton sold the estate in 1673 to Henry Jermyn, second son of Thomas Jermyn, elder brother of Henry Earl of St. Alban's; he was created in 1685 Baron Dover, and in July, 1686, a privy councillor; and was *Le Petit Germain* of Grammont's Memoirs.

court, and will not so much as come hither; and for greater mortification (perhaps for good husbandry to avoid such chargeable neighbours) removes in a day or two to his house near Berry. I am often ask'd whether you design a journey hither; which question I always answer in the affirmative. If anything occur here more important than what I am now able to furnish you with, it shall be transmitted to you by yrs, &c.

CCXI.

SAME to SAME.

March 13, O. S.

Mr. Monstevens gave me a letter yesterday from you, which I therefore suppose came in the Secretary's packet. It was unkindly done of your town of London to make me a hero in a quarrel where I was only a spectator, and so far a preventer as consisted with Christian charity. We expect my L^d Rochester here to-day; as for yourself, pray give me the best warning you can, for you cannot imagine the difficulty of providing lodgings for one that is likely to come so well attended with horse and man as y^r L^d^{sp}. I confess I do not yet see anything that may make it worth your while to come amongst us here; if upon the conjunction of the grandees any thing occur worth your knowledge and within mine you shall have it. My Lord Coventry is in this town, but comes little to court, his business being most amongst the jockeys. Mr. Warwick from Sweden has been here three or four days, designing this morning to go to London; he was seized with an apoplexy that has carry'd him to the other world. The King dines to-day at Chierly [Cheveley]; whether the treat be from my L^d S^t Alban's, who is yet there, or from Mr. Jermyn, I know not, but I do know that the Dutchess of Portsmouth presses me to get on horseback to wait upon her; so I must bid y^r L^d^{sp} adieu.

CCXII.

SAME to SAME.

Newmarket, March 15, O. S. '82-3.

Here is little worth writing, unless it be to tell you what I hear of the motion of the ministers. My L^d Sund. goes next week into Northamptonshire, not to return hither any more, but to meet the King at London; S^r Steph. Fox goes to London on Saturday, and I am told my L^d Rochester the same day, but that he is to be at the Treasury chamber at Whitehall on Tuesday I am told for certain. There is a warrant order'd for a new Irish viscount, one Taaff, brother to my Lord Carlingford, who is a considerable commander under the Emperour.^a His elder brother is going to make him a visit at Bruxells, and carries the patent with him. The Dutchess of Portsmouth has sore eyes, for which she has been let blood this morning. The Dutchess has a cold, for which I hear she intends to keep her bed to-day. I have told you my sense about your lodgings; pray give me what warning you can, for being the first privy seal^b has been heard of at Newmarket, the Harbingers have no precedent where to place you. Adieu.

CCXIII.

SAME to SAME.

Newmarket, March 23, O. S. 1683.

Pen and ink were so hard to be come by in the morning that I desired S^r Tho. Vernon to give you an account of the fire which has consumed near half this town. The whole side in which the King's house stands is untouch'd, but was so near danger that the

^a On 13 August, 1669, Charles II. wrote through Lord Arlington to the constable of Castile, entreating him to restore Mr. Taaffe, Lord Carlingford's secretary, to the command of a troop of horse, which he lost in the Marquis Castel Rodrigo's time for serving the Count de Grinsbergh as second in a duel, or to give him some equivalent employment. (Arlington's Letters, 411). No peerage was conferred on him.

^b He was made Lord Privy Seal 26th October 1682.

King and Queen lay last night at my Lord Suffolk's. We are abundance of the court burnt out of our lodgings, but my stock of goods was so small that except some foul linnen I yet hear of no loss in my family; few have escaped so well, and some have lost their horses, as particularly my L^d Clifford, the Dutchess, Mad. de Mazarin and my L^d Clarendon have lost their coaches, and every moment discovers new damages. The King had once resolved to go to-day to Cambridge, but upon second thoughts will make a shift here till Monday,^a when he will return to London, where I shall then kiss y^r L^d^{sp}s hands. Adieu.

CCXIV.

SAME to SAME.

Windsor, April 16, O. S. '83.

You cannot but know how sensible my Lord Chamberlain is in every circumstance of his dispute with my L^d of Bathe, and how little he would forgive any seeming negligence of mine upon this occasion: a new accident about swearing a page of the backstairs, which by his Majesty's positive command I did on Saturday night, makes me expect hourly his sense of it to obey his commands; and the Duke of Grafton,^b who should have gone this morning to London, stays till the afternoon on purpose to help me with his credit in my difficulties; this makes it impossible for me to wait on your L^d^{sp}, which I am heartily sorry for, as well because I would have done the honours of Hampton Court to my Lady and Lady Betty, as that I would have seen you; but Peacock promised to be in the way, and I am sure Mr. Marriot will shew you all the lodg-

^a This unexpected removal of the Court from Newmarket to London on account of the fire, was the cause assigned for the failure of the so-called "Rye-House Plot." H. Savile's letters about this time are very few, and do not allude to the subject.

^b Henry Fitzroy, the King's second natural son, by Barbara Countess of Cleveland, was created Earl of Euston 16th Aug. 1672, and raised to the Dukedom of Grafton, 11th Sept. 1675.

ings in the house. My L^d Rochester was here yesterday, but return'd last night to Twitenham; my L^d Sunderland is expected here to day, so is the French Ambass^{dr}, Lord Churchill, and others. I was yesterday to see George Porter, who is in a fair way of recovering a terrible accident at his age; I told him your concern for it, for which he desired me to return his humble thanks and service. The King is at tennis, and so probably dines with her grace. Nothing occurs here worth your knowledge. Adieu.

CCXV.

SAME to SAME.

Winchester,^a Sept. 3, O. S. '83.

I arrived here on Saturday night with the rest of the Northamptonshire caravan, except my Lord Rochester, who hurt his foot, as I presume you may have heard. I find here great approbation of the place, and, after some complaints of private people about lodgings, every body takes to it as well as they can, and the country comes in fast to make their Court; amongst the rest, I have seen our kinsmen S^r John Sydenham and S^r John Coventry, the latter having been brought to the King and Duke by my Lord of Gainsborough, the Knight making decent apologies to both, and sufficient promises for the future; and before I leave my Lord Gainsborough, let me tell you that his eldest daughter was married on Monday last to my Lord Digby. In my way hither I saw my Lord William at Oxford, who expects a speedy remove from thence upon your encouragement. I gave him some preparatory lessons against he comes into your immediate tuition, and, if I mistake him not, besides a good inclination

^a The King and Duke of York set out from Windsor on 30th August 1682, to see the horse-racing at Winchester, returning on the 2nd September (Luttrell's Diary, i. 214), and on that day the corporation granted to the King the site of the demolished Castle of Winchester. On 23rd March, 1683, was laid the foundation of the intended royal palace, with a large cupola, from the design of Sir Christopher Wren. On 21 August, 1683, the necessary regulations were made by the corporation for the intended visit of the King and Queen, the Duke of York, and others of the royal family. (Bailey's Transcripts of Winchester Records, pp. 126, 157).

to comply with any thing you direct, I see he has a prudential view which I am sure I never had either at his age or since. On Wednesday the King embarks at Southampton, and I believe will only go to Portsmouth, where he is to dine with my Lord Gainsborough; S^r Rob. Holmes will, I am told, give him also a dinner in the Isle of Wight; at farthest he will be here on Saturday, Sunday being the great day of thanksgiving.^a I shall have the honour to attend him in all these motions, where if any thing occur worth your knowledge, it shall be transmitted to you from yours, &c.

H. S.

CCXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Winchester, Sept. 9th, O.S. '83.

I am in arrear to you two letters. The former wholly concern'd my L^d Weymouth, who undertook to answer it, the hurry of the Portsmouth journey not allowing me time to trouble you. At my return thence yesterday morning your second was brought me, with one from Mon^r de L'Angle by his son. I moved his Majesty according to your directions, and took my L^d Feversham to help me. The King's answer was gracious, and seeming resolute against your comission layes the matter before him: at the same time I hear my L^d of Ormond, who had also a letter from Mon^r de L'Angle, had another answer from the King, viz. that he had reserved him a prebendary of Westminster. I think either of them will do our business, and I am sanguine enough to believe they cannot both fail. Pray give this account to Mon^r de L'Angle, for I intend to referr him to you for the knowledge of these circumstances, and will only write him a line or two of civility to acknowledge the receipt of his. To-day we have past our time in devotion for the honour of the thanksgiving. Dr. [Francis] Turner, Bp. Elect of Rochester, preach'd;^b you will judge of

^a For his deliverance from the late conspiracy: "at night were ringing of bells and bonfires in divers places." (Luttrell, i. 279.)

^b Dean of Windsor; translated to Ely 1684. His text was Psalm cxliv. 9, 10.

the sermon when in print, which by his Maj^{ty}s comands at the Duke's request I have order'd. The King is so delighted here that he will not name a positive day for his return to town; I begin to suspect he will deferr it as long as he can, but in ten days I set forward for the Bath, and shall regulate my return to London by his Maj^{ty}s from Newmarket. We expected my Lord Rochester here last night; we shall do the like to-morrow, when perhaps also he may send his excuse; this you will know best. I have nothing further worth saying, but that I am disabused of what I write to you when I left Windsor, and find I took the alarum about Mr. M. too hott. Adieu.

Your Lordship's most faithfull, humble, &c.

CCXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Calais, Sept^r 10th, '84, N. S.

I wrote to you on Friday, and had one from you yesterday, but not a word yet from Paris. Some English come from St. Omer's seem to confirm from news there that which Mon^r Chardin told you, but it were miraculous such an important advertisement should not be sent either to you or me; and now I live upon the hopes of another flying report, which says they will be here on Tuesday; however, I have been provident enough to write to my banker at Paris, from whom I expect an answer on Wednesday, and then at farthest I can take some resolution which shall be to stay or return (leaving the yacht here) as I see occasion. In the mean time pray continue to write to me for fear of the worst by Thursday's post; it is but one letter lost; but pray remember to put my name upon the outside of it as well as Mon^r Guillebert's, for want of which he read your letter before me, as immediately directed to himself. I know not in which capacity to direct my letter to Mr. Godolphin, and therefore commit it to your care. Adieu.

CCXVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Calais, Sept^r $\frac{A}{13}$, '84.

I have your last, and am obliged to you for pitying me, and the truth is I do deserve compassion, for though I could find reasons enough to excuse my L^d Eland's negligence, I am in amaze at that of my banker at Paris, from whom I have not one word, and should therefore have writ a very melancholy letter, but for a man just now arrived here, who has a letter for Mad. de Gouvernette from her mother, but coming the post road with her upon the way, assuring me that they lye this night at Abbeville and will be here on Monday; so that relying upon this intelligence I am of pretty good cheer, and I think you may reasonably count upon it too, and accordingly calculate the time of our meeting; in the mean time God bless you and yours.

CCXIX.

SAME to SAME.

Calais, Sept. $\frac{A}{13}$, '84.

I grew so impatient since my last to you that I went almost to Montreuil to meet our ladies, which I brought hither very weary to-night, the mother^a so frightened at the sight of the sea, that is a little

^a Mad. de Gouvernette, Countess de la Tour, mother of Lady Eland, who was just married. In one of the lampoons of the day she is called "Eland's vain wife." Her husband did not long live to enjoy his married life, for his will was proved in 1688, and he left no child. Lord Eland is mentioned in State Poems (vol. ii. 135, edit. 1703) as a rhyming Lord:—

Dear Julian, twice or thrice a year,
I write to help thee to some gear;
For thou by nonsense liv'st, not wit

.
But now that province I resign,
And for my successor design

angry at present, that she bids me to tell you her hand shakes so she cannot write. Y^r daughter has not been well these three or four days, so that though the yacht were here I think it were cruel to embark them till a little fairer weather, but she is riding out at sea because of the roughness of this shore, and will be here the first tide of calmer weather: I shall then take the best method I can to bring them to you, and hope it may be by long seas, unless the winds are very contrary, and give you the earliest notice I can what may be proper for you to do towards them: tho' they are afraid you should show the least respect that may be troublesome to yourself. The young daughter is detained at Paris as well as the mother and sons. I think you have done very right about the house, and will only add upon that subject, that there must be a stable for seventeen horses, which is just their number, and which with their three coaches I hope to see embark'd to-morrow for Dover; there either to stay for their ladies, or make the best of their way to town, if the ladies can be prevail'd with to go round in the yacht. I send you these two inclosed lists of their goods: the first enumerating their cloaths seem'd to me so extravagant, (though it be matter of fact that all have been worn,) that I thought it best to enumerate their ballots, and leave it to your credit at the Custom House that their yacht may be met in the river with an order to have their goods search'd at their own house, a very usual practice to others, and would be hard to refuse to these strangers. I will not conclude without giving you the satisfaction of telling you I could not believe it possible our young gentleman could have so much wrong done him in some reports that troubled us, but it is certain they think him the kindest husband in the world, and there are as great

El[an]d, whose pen as nimbly glides
As his good father changes sides ;
His head's with thought as little vex'd
With taking care what should come next ;
But he a path much safer treads ;
Poets live, when statesmen lose their heads.

outward appearances of fondness as ever I saw. The first packet boat that can get out shall carry this letter, and if they cannot stir for foul weather I will write you another letter by the same occasion, but at present I see not what I can well add, but that you may guess any further delays in our journey must be more our misfortunes than our faults.

CCXX.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, March 23rd, O. S. '84-5.^a

Your servant brought me the inclosed just now, and minded me of the privilege you gave me to open such letters as came from either of your sons: the arms and hand of this shew'd it my L^d William's, by which I know his motions, but hardly believe he can be here till Mid-day; in the mean time I am glad to see him write so well, and doubt not but every thing else will be suitable. I shall have occasions enough to write to my Lord George within this fortnight, and therefore desire your orders more precise upon that subject than I think you gave them me. I was troubled not to be yesterday morning at your going away, but I had a cause to hear in my small office that kept me half an hour too late, which excuse pray give the ladies. I hope this will find you all safe at home.

Yesterday morning the Dukes of Grafton and Northumberland took her new Grace and carry'd her on board a yacht, which is to convey her to a convent, much against her will, who was seduced

^a James II. had succeeded to the throne on 6th February, and Henry Savile had been on 17th February reappointed Vice-Chamberlain: the Earl of Arlington being still Lord Chamberlain; the Earl of Rochester became Lord High Treasurer, and the Marquess of Halifax was appointed Lord President of the Council, but held that office only till October 1685, when he retired from the government and was succeeded by the Earl of Sunderland. At the general election in March 1684-5, Lord Eland was pressed to stand on the court interest for the county of Nottingham, but refused. (See Duke of Newcastle's letter 24 March, MSS. State Paper Office. Dom.)

into the snare under the pretence of taking the air, and being reconciled to the Duke of Grafton.^a

My Lord Chamberlain's [Earl of Arlington] return last night gives me time to see Bushy this morning, an occasion I am not to lose, so I shall conclude abruptly, but as affectionately as any brother alive.

CCXXI.

Marquess of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, July 23, O. S., '85.

This goeth with one from my L^y Eland, which I advised her to write that you might help us in your opinion what answer is best to return to Madame de Gouvernet, who it seemeth is desirous that leave may be obtain'd from hence for her return with her family. My Lady Eland thinketh that if you have health enough to continue the intentions you had of making a step to Paris, any thing from hence in favour of her mother would be much better transacted, you being upon the place, than it can be without that help. Besides I am of opinion that the next two or three months will be so very critical as to our affairs, that it will be seen within that compass of time, whether England can in any degree be a sanctuary for distress'd Protestants.^b It seemeth you mentioned something to Madame de

^a The treatment of the newly-married Duchess of Northumberland is thus alluded to in *State Poems* (iii. 223).

Who would presage	T'were just if the King
That we in our age	Took away his blue string,
Should be furnish'd with two <i>Tom Lucys</i> ?	And sew'd him on two to lead him.
Since his grace could prefer	That the lady was sent
The Poulterer's heir	To a convent at Ghent,
To the great match his uncle had made him:	Was the counsel of kidnapping Grafton.

The Duke of Northumberland married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Wheatley of Brecknoe, Berks, widow of Thomas Lucy of Charlecote, Warwickshire, and ob. s. p. 1716. See also ante, note ^a page 73.

^b Alluding to the ordinance in 1685, usually known as the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. This ordinance revoked all that was left of the tolerance of religion; forbade all assemblies or exercise of the reformed religion; banished all their ecclesiastics from the

Gouvernet about my L^d Cambden, which maketh her desirous to know what grounds you have to think it feasible, besides the believing it a reasonable thing, for him to agree to it. I having already acquainted you that I have changed my mind about disposing George, [but] need not repeat any thing of it now, so I recommend you to your waters, and wish they may do better with you than my skill in physick would allow me to expect.^a

CCXXII.

HENRY SAVILE to Marquess of HALIFAX.

Whitehall, Apr. 6, O. S., '86.

At my return this evening I found two of your letters, for which I am y^r debtor, and the inclosed from your son George to yourself, which according to your former orders I open'd; it came by the means of a Dutch merchant, who offers to return what money you please to whatever part of Germany our young gentleman shall be in, so that for the future you may make use of him, or the other way Tom Robson has found, as you shall see fitt. I have already made your complements to Mad. de Gouvernet, who is your humble servant; she and her daughter design to see Rufford in May, and it shall go hard but I will be of the party. The Countess de Roye is come, but it is decided against her that the Queen shall not salute

kingdom in fifteen days; offered to such of them, as would recant, their pensions, augmented by a third, which was to be continued to their wives; compelled the baptism of all infants in the Catholic church; and condemned to the galleys all except the pastors who should attempt to expatriate themselves. (Crowe's Hist. of France, II. 127.) And in the London Gazette of 8 May, 1686, (No. 2136,) it is stated that, on complaint of the French Ambassador, a book entitled "*Les plaintes des Protestants cruellement opprimés dans le Royaume de France*," said to contain many falsities and scandalous reflections upon the Most X^{ian} King, with translations, was ordered to be publicly burnt by the common hangman in front of the Royal Exchange.

^a At the end of October in this year Halifax ceased to hold the presidency of the council, because he was opposed to the repeal of the Test and Habeas Corpus Acts: his removal being most agreeable to Louis XIV., as he stated in his letters to Barillon.

her, which you may suppose is no great affliction to the lady above mentioned. The two Dukes are return'd from Flanders with a certificate from the Bishop of Gaunt that their lady went into the monastery at her own request. I am so just come to town that I must not pretend to write news; that shall be the business of the next post, and at present I will only make my complements to your ladies and yourself.

CCXXIII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, Apr. 8th, O. S., '86.

Since my last my L^d Anglesey is dead of a quinzey. The town will have it that the Duke of Albemarle is to make the match for his sister-in-law, (who was designed for the D. of Northumberland,) for my L^d Feversham,^a and his Grace for his reward shall be a Lieutenant-Gen^l; but I am assured his Majesty knows nothing of this bargain, and very probably it is only a project of Harry Killigrew's, who is certainly gone to Newhall about it, from whence if he can get his Grace to go to Welbeck, and shal you hear of them there together, at least you know their business: in honour of this noble ambassadour, they say he has two strings to his bow, and upon the refusal of the Earl has a Duke in his sleeve, intending my L^d St. Alban's for next oars.^b If this do not make you merry in

^a Lewis de Duras, nephew of Marshal Turenne, (see ante, p. 49, n. b.) He was brother to the Duke de Duras; was naturalised in 1664, when Captain of the Guard to the Duke of York; in 1674 was created Baron Duras of Holdenby; and died 1709, s. p. He was ridiculed as:—

Feversham, in his Sedgemore star and glory,
Proud as the Treasurer, and pettish as Lory.

^b Charles Beauclerk, natural son of Charles II. by Nell Gwyn, was created Duke of St. Alban's 10th January, 1684, and married Diana, daughter and eventually sole heir of Aubrey de Vere, 20th Earl of Oxford:—

The line of Vere, so long renown'd in arms,
Concludes with lustre in St. Alban's charms:
Her conqu'ring eyes have made her race compleat;
They rose in valour, and in beauty set.

the country I know not what will. On Tuesday last D. Hamilton arrived here, and returns into Scotland on Tuesday next. I sent you word in my last how easy it is to send bills of exchange to my L^d George, which surely must be a far better way then what you seem to propose of his having credit there to draw upon anybody here, for in those cases the change is very different, and in his allowance will be a considerable loss to him; therefore whatever you design him pray send soon, for I am confident he will want it for his campaign: it is impossible it can be otherwise as he states his present condition. S^r William [Coventry] is gone this day from his own house to Longleate, and when from thence he has made a step to his new territories in the West, we shall have him again in town. Old Harry continues just as you left him, and has charged me to make you his complements: pray make mine to your ladies, and if I write not to you again on Saturday, you may conclude me at Bushy Park. Adieu.

CXXIV.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, April 13, O. S., '86.

The enclosed is just come to my hands, and is the only occasion of my writing, there not being any news worth sending. Mad^{me} de la Croix, the famous fortune-teller,^a is seiz'd, in order to sending her away. I hear the Scotch Lords have putt off their journey till next Monday. Mon^r de Bonrepos returns into France on Friday, after having finished a treaty here for a better correspondence betwixt the

^a She is thus mentioned in "Poems on State Affairs," 1703, (vol. ii. 152,) in a poem on Madame le Croy:—

Of all the plagues mankind possess
Defend me from the sorceress,
Who draws from lines the calculations,
Instead of squares for demonstrations;

subjects of his master and those of our King beyond the line. My Lady Northumberland is come over. My L^d Devonshire has been to see her, and I am told both parties have thoughts of referring the matter to some indifferent men, rather than make the lawyers rich, and the town sport, with a tedious suit. S^r Phillip Howard is at last dyeing in good earnest. Adieu, I have nothing worth turning over the leaf.

CCXXV.

SAME to SAME.

London, April 17, O. S., '86.

I have yours of the 12th, and, all the volunteers for Hungary^a being gone, I can find no better way of conveying y^r letter to y^r son, [Lord Geo. Savile,] than with the bill of exchange you have sent him, which is accordingly done, Tom Robson's way. You need so little apprehend my not attending our French ladies to Rufford, that I only wish they may be ready as soon as I, for as I am now to calculate all my summer's work, and owing a visit to you as a debt that must be paid, I think it will be more convenient for me to do it sooner than later, so that you may perhaps hear of me in less time than you expect, if I can prevail with the ladies to be as

Such as *Le Croy* imposes on
 The credulous deluded town;
 Who, tho' they know themselves but fool'd,
 Bring double fees for being gull'd.
 I could tell ye
 Of thousands besides Hughes and Nelly,
 Who daily crowd upon the plains,
 To find out choice of youthful swains.

^a Offen or Buda, and the finest parts of Hungary, were taken by Solyman II. in 1526; the Turks were turned out in 1529, but retook Buda the same year. It was attempted to be regained from them in 1540, 1598, 1601, and 1684. The final and successful siege began on 19th June, 1686. On the night of the 23rd the lower town was attacked and taken, and the Turks retired into the castle: the great tower was taken in a general assault on the 27th July. On the 23d August the Bavarians were masters of the castle, and the whole town was captured on the 2d September, 1686.

forward in the point as myself. You are too near some of the D. of Albemarle's friends to be ignorant of the great employments he has at his own request obtained of Governour of Jamaica, where he proposes to himself to make up all the breaches he has made in his fortune at home. The Archbishop's [of York's^a] successour we yet know not, no more than the particulars of more removes to be made in Westminster Hall. S^r Joseph Ashe dyed on Thursday last, leaving a fair estate to a very feeble son, as well in land as the East India Company. My Lord President [Sunderland] is chosen a Governour in the Charterhouse, in the place of the Archbishop of York. My Lady Eland has been cautious enough in the point you advise me to counsell her in, so as to that matter you need apprehend nothing. The old gentleman of the Haymarket, with his humble service, thanks you for your kind remembrance, and when I have done as much, and kiss'd the hands of your ladies, I see no reason for troubling you further.

CCXXVI.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, April 24, O.S., '86.

I have your last, and shall do the best service to Captⁿ Wren that I can, though my credit is very small in the way he desires my help. Bab. May is yet at Newmarket;^b at his return I shall remind him of your stallion, though if you are for breeding in good earnest I wish you somewhat nicer than you seem to be in your choice. His Maj^{ty} goes on Monday to Chatham; from whence, if he do not go to Newhall in his return, he will go thither on purpose the week after; so earnest his Grace has been to entertain his Maj^{ty} there.

The match betwixt my L^d Northampton and Mrs. Fox is said to be concluded.^c My Lady Henrietta Wentworth is dead, having

^a John Dolben.^b He was Privy Purse.^c Jane, youngest daughter of Sir Stephen Fox, Knt. She died 10th July, 1721.

sacrificed her life to her beauty, by painting so beyond all measure that the mercury got into her nerves and killed her.^a She has left her land to her mother for life; afterwards it goes to my Lady Lovelace, and so to my Lord. I do not hear that his Most Xtian Majesty is yet clear of his fistula. The Ambassadors declare there is no danger, and the coffee-houses kill him every day; what the truth is, God knows. The Gazette acquaints you with the removes in Westminster hall. I believe the next time I write I shall fix my day for waiting on you, for I would willingly return before the King goes to Windsor. Adieu.

CCXXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, Apr. 29, O.S.

I am come so late this night from Windsor that I have not time to run into the house for news, which I leave to your other correspondents; but least the post should be gone I find here the inclosed from Lord William, by which it appears he will be soon here. Sir William [Coventry] writes word he will be here next, and lodge at y^r house, and I have myself thoughts of seeing you so soon at Rufford that, though I cannot name a day, I would not have you venture any more letters to me here, unless I give you new advertisement of my stay. Adieu.

CCXXVIII.

SAME to SAME.

May 28, O.S., '86.

By the help of your gelding, for which I return you a thousand thanks, I came hither last night, and shall put him to-day into the

^a The celebrated and beloved mistress of the Duke of Monmouth. She was only daughter and heir of Thomas Lord Wentworth, and died 23rd April, 1686, unmarried.

hands of your servant without any detriment received by the way. My L^d William [Savile] has been here ever since Saturday, and has waited so assiduously upon S^r W^m [Coventry] the whole time, that you cannot imagine how kindly he takes it. The poor man is gone this morning to Tunbridge with very ill looks, and I think more out of heart than I have ever known him; he has perfectly overruled your letter to your son, who goes with me this afternoon to Windsor, and begins his journey towards you on Monday next: his elder brother [Lord Eland] went last night out of his own house upon the worthy errand you know of; how he will succeed God knows; but from a pretended tenderness of his wife he has obliged her to go see him at times when one would not shew one's self to any creature living; how far this may deferr her journey I cannot answer—she will herself give you an account of it. To return to my Lord William, I carry'd him this morning to my L^d Sunderland, who received him kindly, and likes him very well; and if it lay in his way would, I am confident, do him any kindness, who is come over bare of money, so that I shall man him out towards you with twenty pounds, which may be reimbursed me in the accounts betwixt Mr. Greathead and Tom Robson; and when he begins his journey I shall write more at large by him. I have been already at Somerset house to make your complements, and I have left your letters with your servant, except that to H. Thynne, which I delivered with my own hand, who is gone with S^r Will^m to stay the whole time and drink the waters with him. Mr. Buckeley desired me to make you his complements most humbly, which I am the more hasty to do that I may also tell you it is one of his name, but not so much as his relation, whose lip suffer'd in the late fray. H. Coventry is got well enough to go to the lodge, where he remains. What we heard of my L^d of Oxford is only a thing that may be, but is not yet done. The camp^a begins this day, and his Ma^{ty} is there, I presume, at this

^a Of 15,000 men, infantry and cavalry, on Hounslow Heath, which the King manœuvred frequently with much pride. (Dalr. App. 167-171.)

very time. My Lady Brandon has the small-pox, which may possibly alter some circumstances in a matter you know of. I will conclude with the great news of all, which is, that the Queen is with child, which God grant! And so, with my complements to all your ladies, and to my Lord Vaughan,^a I end; assuring you that for all the cherries, strawberries, and beans, I meet with here, I am country mouse enough to wish myself with you [at Rufford] again.^b

CCXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

Windsor, May 29, O. S., '86.

Here we came last night; and our young gentleman [Lord Wm. Savile] kiss'd their Maj^{ties} hands. His uncle Sunderland has invited him to dinner, where we are now going; and afterwards he returns to London. I have not yet seen the Ld Tresur; his lady I have, who has been very ill, and far beyond her former indispositions, as appears sufficiently in her looks. Her behaviour to me was just as formerly, though both they and everybody else have been very free with my late voyage; which, enervating my complement of waiting upon your L^{dsp}, I am content to suffer a little upon such an account, and make the best use within myself of the light this occasion has given me. My Lord Eland, as his wife and mother tell me, was very angry at

^a Son to the Earl of Carberry. In August, 1682, he married Lady Anne Savile, his second wife. They had an only daughter and heir, Anne, who became the first wife of Charles Marquess of Winchester, and afterwards Duke of Bolton.

^b Lord Strafford gives an amusing anecdote of James I., when hunting with his Court at Rufford (afterwards the seat of the Saviles):—"The loss of a stag, and the hounds hunting foxes instead of a deer, put the king into a marvelous chaff, accompanied with those ordinary symptoms, better known to you courtiers, I conceive, than to us rural swains; in the height whereof comes a clown galloping in and staring him full in the face: 'His blood! (quoth he,) am I come forty miles to see a fellow?' and presently in a great rage turns about his horse, and away he goes faster than he came; the address whereof caused his Majesty and all the company to burst out into a vehement laughter; and so the fume for that time was happily dispersed." (Strafford Papers, i. 16.) This is doubtless the incident on which the popular story of "The King and the countryman" was founded.

your prohibition to his brother to see him; especially considering how ill he was, and how incapable of debauching him. The truth is, I did, you know, at Rufford, differ with you in that point; and, to less favourable judges than your best friends, I doubt it will appear too harsh, and give occasion to a rupture which ought to have been prevented as long as possible, and have began on my Lord Eland's side, as it certainly wou'd have done had you had a little patience.

I have been here too few hours to have learnt great secrets. One I am told that I hardly believe; but if, upon further inquiry, I find it true, I will take some way or other to let you know it; viz. that Lord Chancellour, being a little frightened with the brisk proceedings here, is leaving my L^d P[resident] for L^d T. to joyn with him in moderating counsell; especially since the stop made in Scotland has given a little vigour to men of those thoughts. And the papists have by it received a rebuke that frightens one half and enrages the other half of their number; and, though some care be taken to secure them against insults at their citty chappell, very few of them expose themselves to the hazard of being ill used; so that their congregation is very small, and liker a conventicle than a church triumphant. In the mean time, to go one step further in the court, the King will for the future have his popish clergy say their office at healings, according to an ancient formulary used in the time of Harry the Seventh.^a

We are very angry at a paper, short, pithy, and plain, proportion'd to the persons it was designed for, lately dispersed among the common souldiers and seamen, shewing them the danger of popery and ruinous consequences of it; and advising them not to be seduced or trapan'd into the destruction of their fellow-subjects and their own.^b Another paper, given the King by Mrs. James,

^a A notice of the formulary used by Queen Mary I. is given in the Proceedings of the Soc. Ant. II. 293-4.

^b "An humble and hearty address to all the English Protestants in the present army," written by Samuel Johnson, chaplain to the late Lord Russell, and still a prisoner for writing the libel of "Julian the Apostate" on James as Duke of York. The address circu-

though far above her writing, has occasioned her being forbid the Court; and her being thought mad has not been thought an excuse for speaking too plainly of the V. Mary and of transubstantiation.

Here I was call'd to dinner, as I told you above, where my L^d William [Savile] has behaved himself extreamly well, and not saying a word but as answering pertinently to what was ask'd him; contrary enough to the pertness we doubted in him,—in a word, very well. The Dutchess of Richmond was there, and her sister, and Lord Godolphin, and all, I dare say, well contented with him; and as I find in him all that I desire as to his observance of you, so pray let me play the fool so far in your concerns as to desire that you will now use him more like a man than a boy, and if at some times, as is reasonable, you give him rigid lessons, at others shew a good deal of friendly familiarity, which is the best method to prevent his rebelling like one brother [Lord Eland], and being cow'd like the other [Lord George Savile]. What further occasions I may have of speaking my mind to you of things that occur here, and may be fit for your knowledge, I shall transmitt to your trusty servant at your own house, and so God bless you and yours.

CCXXX.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 3, O. S.

I hope by this time L^d William is as well in your opinion as, upon my faith, he is with everybody of all sorts who has seen him here; and by all the discourse he had either with his uncles, W. C. or H. S., or myself, or, which is above all, L^d Pres^t, either he will not forfeit our character, or we shall our judgements; and so I leave him to

lated "with electric rapidity through the camp, and defeated by its single force all the arts of James." The author was tried, condemned, and sentenced to pay a fine of 500 marks, to be exposed three times in the pillory, and to be whipped from Newgate to Tybourn. (State Trials, xi. 1339.)

French men) was of one fact in the Peace shall be aggressive embark peace, end this leaf; and I pre it can now out and my left the higher ment, to mind expence hands of Piccadill sent to be cannot open'd b * Sir W After the 25), he did * Charley * Henry speak of his younger brother. This morning my L^d Carlingford made me a complement from his brother my Lord Taaf at Vienna, and assured me of the good hopes I might reasonably have of my nephew. I answer'd as you may imagine, but at the same time told his L^d it was very good news to me that my nephew had been so lucky as to fall into the acquaintance of his brother, which his friends had reason to doubt, because his youth and unskillfullness had suffer'd him to want such encouragement as his father intended him, who had been long in pain how to furnish him with such supplies as became him, and it was but lately he had put us in the way of it. This discourse gave him occasion to tell me that it was true his brother had hinted to him how sorry he was to see the poor youth all the winter in one of the worst auberges of the town, and yet seem'd not to desire supplys from anybody, which he should willingly have offer'd, had the least behaviour of his shew'd the want of them. I thought it proper to give you an account of this, because some discourse of this nature was lucky [likely] enough for my Lord Taaf to know, who, you may be sure, shall want no complements of mine, nor shall your name be spared in the case. He that is first shall be last. To say something of my Lord Eland, he is now under a great operation, and thus far seems recoverable. His Lady tells me she will set forward towards you on Wednesday next; in that case you may be sure I shall write by her, though I shall not be here, returning to Windsor to-morrow, with no thoughts of returning hither but as seldom as possibly I can. When I came hither with the Court on Tuesday night I hoped to have found some news of S^r William Coventry, but none has come since he went to the Wells, which I hope is rather a good sign than an ill one. According as I hear he is within eight or ten days, I will make him a visit; his brother is crept to his lodge, but can only take the air there in his coach. I had yours of the 29th in due season, which being matter of kindness more than what nature will ever keep up betwixt us two. The ordinary newsmongers can easily send you more than I can; what is this day's talk is of a scuffle happened near Cadiz, betwixt six

French and two Dutch men of war; the insolence (but loss of forty men) was on the former side, the reason and honour (but the death of one of the captains and four men) was on the latter. I am imperfect in the story, but, as it is told by the Dutch, it is barbarous; yet the French Em^{br} here tells another tale, and that he at the Hague shall complain to the States as if their commanders were the aggressours; however they come off of this matter, they are surely embark'd in a war with Algiers, with whom you know France is in peace. My complements to your Ladys and Lord William shall end this side, and I will not have the conscience to turn over the leaf; and so God prosper your good Lordship.

CCXXXI.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 24, O. S. '86.

I presume my last has so prepared you to expect the worst, that it can be no longer surprize, though great grief to hear, he is now out of all pain; yesterday, at four in the afternoon, H. Thynne and myself closed the eyes of this dear deceased friend,^a and, having left the body in good hands at Tunbridge, we came immediately hither that we might see what order he has given about his interment, for, though twice in his sickness he spoke to H. Thynne to mind his executours that his funeral should be of very small expence, he never named the place; he said he had left his will in the hands of my cousin Watt. Coventry, to whom we have sent to be at Piccadilly House this afternoon at three of clock, and we have also sent to both our uncles Frank and Harry^b to be there, and if the latter cannot come from the Chace [Enfield] we shall carry the will to be open'd before him; whatever the contents are, I resolve to return to-

^a Sir William Coventry, youngest son of the Lord Keeper, b. 1626, and ob. unmarried. After his challenge to the Duke of Buckingham in March 1668-9 (see ante, note ^b, page 22), he did not hold office, but lived much at Minster Lovell near Witney, Oxon. The "Character of a Trimmer" has been ascribed, though it is believed erroneously, to him.

^b Henry Coventry himself died in November, 1686. (Luttrell, i. 390.)

night, I hope time enough to write to you, and I shall to-morrow morning return to Tunbridge not to stir from the body whilst it is above ground, that I may not fail in the least tittle of respect or duty to this incomparable friend.* That he is gone will I am sure afflict you enough without any repetitions of the manner of his-dying, which was as regular and exemplary as his living; he had his senses to the last moment, and recommended himself kindly to you. We are here of opinion that you are one of his executors; if so, I believe your speedy coming to town will be necessary, and therefore, if the post be gone hence before I return at night, I will put you to the expence of an express: if you are not an executor that will be needless.

Thursday noon.

CCXXXII.

SAME to SAME.

Whitehall, June 24, O. S. '86, 9 at night.

We have been at the Chace since the letter I wrote this morning, and opened the will before the Secretary, who, with yourself, my Lord Weymouth, and my aunt Thynne, have fifty pounds a piece to buy a ring; almost all his relations and many of his acquaintance have ten pounds for the same use; to some few one hundred a piece; to a daughter of my cousin Eyre there is one thousand pounds; to the three daughters of my cousin Godfrey five hundred pounds each; to my uncle Frank [Coventry] five hundred pounds; but the executors are myself (first), my cousin Frank Coventry, James Thynne and Harry Thynne; but besides my executorship he has carried his generosity so far as to leave me released from the fifteen hundred pounds I owed him, and has also left me his manor of Bampton, [Oxon.] during my life, and then it is to go to a son of my cousin Watt. Coventry, to whom he has also left a very considerable lease in Somersetshire. The other particulars are of less moment, so that you will see them better in a copy of the will, which I intend to send to you as soon as

* See the high character given of him by Clarendon (Hist. of Rebellion, i. 45); and Burnet (Hist. ii. 138).

I come from the Wells, where I will go to-morrow to bury this excellent man in some neighbouring church^a there, according to the seeming meaning of his will and the advice of my uncle Harry. If I write not to you by Saturday's post, you see the reason will be my necessary absence upon this occasion. I had like to have concluded without telling you the most noble and Christian part of his will, whereby he leaves two thousand pounds to the poor French Protestants,^b and three thousand for the redemption of slaves. All St John's estate goes to my uncle Frank. This is all I can think of in the haste the post is at this time of night. My complements to all your ladies. God comfort you for the loss of our dearest uncle; upon my salvation, all he has left me does not comfort me. Yours, etc.

CCXXXIII.

Marquess of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, July 25, O. S., '86.

It belongeth generally to those who are in town to write to their friends in the country; but considering what a place the town is now, and how ill qualified I am at present to inform myself of any thing worth knowing, it is much more indifferent, whether or no I acquit myself of this piece of duty. Only the last news from Buda

^a He was buried at Penshurst, where a monument was erected to his memory, with the following inscription:—

"Hic situs est Gulielmus Coventrye, Eques Auratus, Thomæ Baronis Coventrye de Alisborough filius natu minimus. Cujus egregias nature dotes antiqua fides, spectata probitas, mores suavissimi maxime commendarunt. In negotijs impiger, sagax, indefessus; in bello rebusq. asperis providus, intrepidus, constans; in conciliis tam regis secretioribus quam regni publicis singularis sapientia ejus atq. ingenij acumen mirè enituit, et, quod in dubijs temporibus difficillima est, ita omnium officiorum observantissimus debitam principi fidem cum patrie salutis studio semper conjunxit. Religionis reformatæ cultor pius, strenuus felixq. vindex. Sui decus seculi, futuris exemplum, qui cum per multos captivos redemerit alueritq. pauperes non heredum eget pietate ut nominis sui memoria lapideis consecratur monumentis, tumulum enim sibi excitavit omni marmore perennem. Piè ac placidè animam Deo reddidit apud fontes vicinos medicinales VIII. calend. Julius An. Dom. MDCLXXXVI. ætatisq. suæ LX."

^b Who had found their refuge here after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes.

giveth me some grounds to write to you, that, if you hear your nephew^a is shot through the belly, you may know at the same time that his bowells are not touch'd, and, by a letter written four days after the action, he was said to be in a hopefull way of recovery; this doth in a great measure allay my disquiets for him, though some fears will remain with me till I hear again, which I suppose will be in a little time. If he have the good fortune to escape this danger, such an honourable wound will be an ornament at least to him, and in another time might be of some use to him for the better introducing him into the world. Mr. Herbert hath been very kind to him, as he seemeth to express in a letter he sent to Mr. Fisher, his agent here in town, in which he sayeth he will not leave Buda till he seeth what will become of your nephew. I begin to doubt that my small affairs will detain me so much longer here than I intended, as to make me send up for my family instead of going down to it, but of this I am not yet resolved. Yours.

CCXXXIV.

HENRY SAVILE to Marquess of HALIFAX.

Tunbridge Wells, July 25, O. S.

My Lord Montjoy's letter to my Lord Treasurer speaks of my Lord George his being shott in the belly, though it is hoped not

^a Lord George Savile was wounded in the unsuccessful attack on the breach of the town, and in the attempt to make a lodgment upon it, on 13th July, 1686. The London Gazette (No. 2158) thus describes the attack and the loss: "Most of the volunteers were ready at the head trenches and followed the grenadiers, who were to clear the breach; they mounted in two places, and in both found the Turks in a posture to receive them: the fight was very obstinate for near an hour, and many faggots and sacks of earth were placed to cover our men, but the Turks fought very desperately, and most of the officers and volunteers who bore their fury being killed or wounded, the soldiers quitted their posts. The English volunteers shewed all possible bravery on this occasion; of twenty, only Mr. Fitz-James and five or six more are not hurt, the rest are killed or wounded, the Lord George Savile [is shot] through the belly."

dangerously. Pray let me know what account you have of it: what is more extraordinary is that S^r George Etheridge writes word he has a letter from Will. Harbord, wherein he tells him that he intends to go to Ratisbonne as soon as he has seen my Lord a little better. How he has taken our young man so particularly into his care I cannot well imagine, unless it be an introduction into your *bonnes graces*, after having entirely lost those he had before he left England. It this poor youth recover his wound, we are not to lament he received it, for besides those are marks of honour to young men that put themselves in the way of it, he will by this accident be secured from any further hazard in this siege, which begins as if it would be fatal to many.

My pain is I think a little abated since my being here; as yet patience is my best remedy, and if in eight or ten [days] I find no better I will return to town, where, whether I find you or no, I am ever most entirely yours, &c.

CCXXXV.

Marquess of HALIFAX to HENRY SAVILE.

London, July 27, O. S., '86.

I writ last night to give you an account of what I heard from Buda, and, notwithstanding the good hopes given me by all the letters that speak of his wound, I must continue a little disturbed till I hear again: it will be far from a misfortune if he escapeth, both as it will excuse him for the remaining time of the siege, and as it will recommend a young man to the world by carrying such a lasting mark of honour about with him. I forgive all Mr. Herbert's irregularities in friendship for his kindness at such a time to y^r nephew, which is so seasonable that I am very thankful for it. Since you find some beginnings of amendment in your health, you are to continue the means of increasing it, though I confess I have a lower opinion of the vertue of waters than is fashionable for a man to have, the doctors in vogue having declared so much for them.

I begin to be of opinion you may find me in town at your return, though I am yet unfix'd in that matter. Yours.^a

CCXXXVI.

HENRY SAVILE to Marquess of HALIFAX.

Tunbridge, July 29, O. S. '86.

I have your last letter, and am glad my old friend Will. Harbord has by present kindness made amends for past offences. I confess I am very impatient for fresh news of our young gentleman; in the meantime, to add to the other intelligence you have, I send you my Lord Mountjoy's letter to me. I have answer'd it this day with many complements for his kindness to my Lord George, and have assured him of your gratefull sense of it as well as my own, which I hope you will allow of. My pain is considerably lessen'd these last three or four days, but there is yet enough left to make me pursue the sweetning my blood, which is the virtue these waters pretend to. I am apt enough to think I shall find not only yourself but your family in town at my return, it not being worth your going down for the small time you intend to stay at poor Rufford, where, if I can

^a This is the last letter from the Marquess of Halifax to his brother Henry Savile: but among the Duke of Devonshire's MSS. is the following letter (printed in the Life of Rachel Lady Russell, ed. 1819, p. 102), written by the Marquess after the loss of his eldest and youngest sons, within twelve months, which is worth reprinting.

"MADAM,

London, July 23, 1689.

I must own that my reason is not strong enough to bear with indifference the losses that have lately happened to my family; but at the same time I must acknowledge I am not a little supported by your Ladyship's favour to me, in the obliging remembrance I have received from you and in your condoling the affliction of the man in the world that is most devoted to you. I am impatient till I have an hour's conversation with your Ladyship to ease my mind of the just complaints I have that such returns are made to the zeal I have endeavoured to express in my small capacity for the good of England. I cannot but think it the fantastical influence of my ill stars, very peculiar to myself, all circumstances considered; but, whilst I am under the protection of your Ladyship's better opinion, the malice or mistakes of others can never have the force so much as to discompose, Madam, your Ladyship's most obedient servant,

HALIFAX.

"Lady Russell."

live to board with Mr. Bird, you shall see if I wish for the best house that can be built with hands in smoky London. Upon this subject you know already how much I pity you, and, though we shall never change opinions upon this subject, I am ever most entirely yours, etc. Adieu.

CCXXXVII.

SAME to SAME.

Tunbridge, Aug. 6, O.S. '86.

I have two letters from you, and both give so good an account of my Lord George that I hope we may now look only upon the advantageous side of his accident, and be glad he is out of the future danger of the siege, and expect that some time or other his wound may make his way to preferment, especially if you design he shall follow that profession. I confess since his hurt I have repented I did not argue more for his carrying my servant Meizey along with him, who has seen a great deal of service, and is very handy in case of sickness, so that he might have been of good use to him in his present circumstances. I wonder not you have sent for y^r family. I am sure I shall be very glad to see them at my return to town, but that will not be very soon; for, besides that I will drink the waters a fortnight longer, I will go straight from hence to Windsor, and ply there and at Bushy till the court return to London, unless call'd there by business, or perhaps one visit to your ladies. Our news here is as little worth writing as any at London can be, and for business, God be praised, I have none; so that I must bid you very dryly, though very heartily, farewell.

CCXXXVIII.

SAME to SAME.

Althorpe, Oct. 9, O.S. '86.

I think it were not well to make such a progress as I am upon without giving you some account of myself, who, after settling my

small affairs in Oxfordshire, have past most of this week here. To-morrow I go on towards Lincolnshire, where you, who know my concerns, may easily imagine I have no great business. Some I have, which I will tell you at my return, and that you cannot but approve; besides that I am not unwilling to loiter away ten or twelve days before my return to London, but that will be the outside. In the mean time I have not forgot to make the inquiry you recommended to me, and find y^r intelligence upon that subject so far from being true, that it is not only firmly denied, but when I see you I shall tell you something very contrary to it. I was so loaded with complements by my Lady Thynne for yourself and lady, that I think I had best send part of them to you before I come; and, if in my absence you have any commands for me, Tom Robson will know how to send to me whilst I stay in the country, of which the worst spot of ground in England is more delightfull to me than the best entertainment London can afford.

Yours, most entirely, etc.

CCXXXIX.

SAME to SAME.

Dieppe, July 7, '87.

From hence you will expect only to hear of my passage, which has been wonderfull favourable; and a litter of the king's is here to carry me to Rouen to-morrow, and so on to Paris, where I count I shall be on Tuesday. If my voyage be as prosperous by land as it has been by sea I shall soon come to my great work, which I confess I grow impatient to see begun, in order to its being the sooner ended; my infirmities growing by their duration so tedious to me that I would see the end of them very willingly, whatever it is to be; but my hopes are so much greater than my fears that my impatience may

be the better allow'd by my friends.^a It lyes very much upon my heart that I did not in due form take leave of my Lady Halifax and Lady Betty; but you charged yourself with my excuses, and I hope have made them so effectually that both my kindness and my good manners may be saved harmless. You must needs make some complements for me too to our French ladies, to whom, since I cannot write, you will give an account of my being arrived here in as good health as I left them; for I have so many impertinent people about me now at my landing, that I may thank God I have found this moment to tell you, my most dear brother, that I do in good faith look upon my separation from you as the very worst circumstance of my present condition. Adieu.

I nor mine never heard word of S^r Thomas Clarges his packett, which, with my most humble service, you may tell him.

^a In the second volume of Familiar Letters (1699, p. 42) is one addressed by Henry Savile, without date, but during his illness in England, to his old friend Henry Killigrew, in equally good spirits:—

“Noble Henry,—Sweet namesake of mine, happy-humoured Killigrew, soul of mirth and all delight! the very sight of your letter gave me a kind of Joy that I thought had been at such a distance with me, that she and I were never more to meet. For, since I have been at St. Alban's, heaven and earth were nearer one another than Joy and Fermyn, for here, some half a mile out of town, absent from all my friends, in the fear of being forgot by 'em, I pass my wearisome time in a little melancholly wood, as fit for a restless mind to complain of his sad condition as I am unfit to relate my sufferances to one so happy as your blessed humour makes you; therefore as freely I quit you of hearing what I could say on this subject. Also, allow me the liberty of not answering in your own style; yet, dear Harry, write still the same way. Once I could drink, talk strangely, and be as mad as the best of you, my boys: who knows but I may come to it again? Comfort me: 'tis well I can stay thus long upon the matter; after the life I have led it is more than I did believe it was possible for me to do; therefore do not abandon me yet; try two or three letters more; there is great hopes of me, and, if that does not do the business, send me to my wood again, and allow me noe other correspondent but pert and dull Mast s, a punishment great enough for a great offender; for in this my misery he plays the devil with me, surpasses himself by much. Prithee, Killigrew, allay his tongue with two or three sharp things, as you and I used to say of you know who, for I lost mine; and so farewell.

H. SAVILE.”

CCXL.

SAME to SAME.

Paris, Aug. 16, N. S. '87.

I am indebted my thanks for two of yours. I had paid them for one the last post, but that, having the same duty upon my hands to my Lord William, I chose rather to write to your second self than to yourself, knowing it would at least be equally satisfactory to you. I am now come to the end of all delays; and Monday is appointed for the certain day of my operation, of which you will have a certain account by the next post in a few lines I will make Mon^r Tribouveau write, which when you have perused pray send immediately to Tom Robson, who is to convey the same paper to others of my friends who are inquisitive after my condition. This is not all, for your Ld^{sp} into the bargain is to acquaint Mad^{me} de Gouvernet what you hear of me. You will pardon all these precise orders, but a sick man is a kind of prince in point of authority, and grows peevish if the whole world does not comply with him; so that, very wisely, we never think ourselves so much masters of the world as when we are at least in some hazard of leaving it. According to your calculation, it cannot be long before my Lord George come hither. I shall give him the best instructions in my power, tho' those he wants are not much within my sphere, who err'd myself on quite the other hand, so that I rather wish him a little more inclinable to such frailtys as I carry'd to too high an excess. I presume you have both limited his stay and given him directions for his next remove, which I hope will not be into England, the very worst place in Christendome for young men at this time. My new Lord Coventry is a man to some purpose, especially if his son be yet unmarried; the match with Polyxphen's daughter being broke off when I left London, I presume he will now pay us the 5,000*l*. I wish Mon^r du Val would do as much with the 1,500*l*. he is so dunn'd for by H. Thynne. All those matters, I count, will go

exceeding well under so sufficient a deputy as y^r Ld^{sh}; whom, with all that belong to you, God long preserve in health and happiness. Adieu, my dear Brother.

CCXLI.

SAME to SAME.

Calais, Sept. 7, '89.
Aug. 2.

I came hither yesterday morning after a great deal of very bad weather; but, being so old a seaman as neither to be sick nor afraid, I had no other trouble but the impatience of being here to put, as I thought, our friends out of pain for their yacht; but, so far from finding them here expecting me, I have no other traces of them than the arrival of two pages sent before, and have been here a week. Just now I have met with a wild report (whence grounded I know not) that they came not out of Paris till Tuesday; if that be true, I shall not see them here till Monday. In the mean time, according to a pretty good stock of patience that God has given me, I can be quiet and lazy, and only in pain for the yacht, of which the delay may perhaps be irksome to our princes, whose favourites next to their dogs their yachts are. You will not, I suppose, expect any news from hence, so that I have nothing to do but to conclude with this dilatory account of my voyage, and the more certain one of my being for ever yours, &c.

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